FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 NOVEMBER 1984

PNC Session

The PNC continued its meetings in Amman over the weekend, electing Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih as its new speaker to replace Khalid al-Fahum and approving the addition of 13 new members to its ranks to represent Palestinian communities in North and South America, Amman radio reported. PNC sources cited by QNA disclosed that the Damascus-based National Alliance leaders, notably those from the PFLP-General Command and Al-Sa'iqah, will be expelled from their seats on the PNC and the PLO Executive Committee. The PNC deputy speaker announced that the PNC headquarters will be transferred from Damascus to Amman, according to Baghdad Voice of PLO Radio.

Meanwhile, in a report to the PNC broadcast by Amman radio, PLO Political Department Chief Faruq Qaddumi criticized Syria for backing the Fatah dissidents in its attempt to "confiscate Palestinian national decisionmaking." However, the battle against Israel and imperialism necessitates "correct relations" between the PLO and Syria, Qaddumi pointed out, and the PLO is therefore eager to resume the dialogue with the Syrians and exert more efforts to form a Palestinian-Syrian relationship on a clear basis. The PLO leaders were "not convinced" that Syria's "strange" stand was the result of a personal dispute between PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, he said, nor can the dispute be ascribed to political differences since the PLO and Syria agree on many issues apart from the Iran-Iraq war. As for U.S. policy, Qaddumi stated that the PLO does not expect a change in President Reagan's policy on the Palestine issue in his second term.

In Damascus, Khalid al-Fahum denounced the PNC session as "illegal," announcing the names of 168 members who boycotted the session, according to Damascus radio. However, the new PNC speaker rejected Al-Fahum's accusations in a statement reported by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. As for the Soviet attitude toward the PNC session, PLO Deputy Military Commander Khalil al-Wazir asserted that the USSR has sent a message to 'Arafat expressing its support for Palestinian legitimacy and the PNC, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. Nevertheless, a Dubayy newspaper cited by WAM viewed the absence of a Soviet delegation from the session as a "controversial" development that will encourage the split in Palestinian ranks. Meanwhile, a TASS report on the visit to Moscow by the PFLP and DFLP leaders, George Habash and Nayif Hawatimah, cited their view that the Aden-Algiers agreement between Fatah and the Democratic Alliance remains "topical" and should be implemented to serve as a basis for overcoming the difficulties in the PLO.

In other developments, XINHUA reported that PRC Premier Zhao Ziyang wished the PNC session "complete success" in a message To 'Arafat, While Riyadh television noted that King Fahd sent a message to 'Arafat expressing Saudi Arabia's support for the PNC session in Amman. At the PNC itself, Iraqi representative Na'im Haddad reaffirmed Iraq's support for the PLO and denounced Syria's "treasonous and scandalous stand," according to INA. Commenting on Egypt's support for the PNC session, Yasir 'Arafat emphasized that the Egyptian delegation to the session fully represents "official and popular" Egypt and noted that the Egyptian group is the largest foreign delegation attending the PNC, MENA reported citing *AL-AHRAM*.

Lebanon

Implementation of the first phase of the security plan for greater Beirut began at dawn on 26 November, Beirut radio announced. "Armed Manifestations" disappeared as the Army removed bunkers and roadblocks. The new security measures are the first phase of a comprehensive security plan agreed on by the Lebanese leaders and Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam during talks in Bikfayya over the weekend, according to the radio. In the second phase, beginning on 2 December, the army will deploy northward and southward along the coastal road, and a week later the Army will deploy westward along the Damascus highway in implementation of the third phase. In remarks broadcast by Beirut radio, Prime Minister Rashid Karami affirmed that Lebanon will prove to Israel and the World that its army is capable of spreading the state's legitimacy to southern Lebanon.

Egypt

Libya on Egyptian 'Alert' — Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki sent a message to the Arab League on 24 November warning that Egypt has placed its forces on a "red alert" in preparation for an "aggression" against Libya, JANA reported. The message cited a meeting between President Husni Mubarak and his military commanders as evidence of Egypt's intentions.

Husayn Visit — Jordanian King Husayn will visit Cairo shortly, according to an *AL-JUMHURIYAH* report cited by MENA.

Al-Azhar Riots — The Al-Azhar University has decided to suspend studies for 2 weeks from 26 November because some students tried to incite riots, MENA reported.

Earlier AFP reported that police had occupied the campus and arrested around 300 students. Nevertheless, in remarks cited by MENA, Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi denied "rumors" that police had entered the university.

Sudan

The official spokesman for the Sudanese Armed Forces has announced a "red alert" for southern Sudan, according to Tripoli radio.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Gulf sources cited by Kuwait's *AL-WATAN* asserted that Iran has agreed "in principle" to a GCC peace initiative that aims to establish a cease-fire before the start of negotiations, AFP reported. Noting that the initiative may be backed by a Syrian-Algerian mediation effort, the paper said Iran indicated its agreement to Syrian Vice President Khaddam during his recent visit to Tehran. In a related development, a senior Gulf official disclosed that the new initiative will be formulated after a detailed report on the war is considered at the forthcoming GCC summit, according to WAKH.

Nevertheless, Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani reaffirmed Iran's desire for a military solution to the war in remarks reported by Tehran radio on 24 November. Iran must settle the issue once and for all by means of an "appropriate operation" in the "not too distant future," he told Revolution Guards commanders at a mass meeting in Tehran. Iran has given the Iraqis an ultimatum, he said, but since "global arrogance" remains obstinate in protecting the Iraqi regime, the Iranian leadership has reached a "decision." The Islamic Republic has made preparations to bring the war to an end, and its forces have never before been as strong as they are now, the Majlis speaker contended. Earlier, in remarks reported by IRNA, President 'Ali Khamene'i warned Gulf states "including Kuwait" that Iran will not allow them to export oil if they allow Iraq to use their facilities to hit oil tankers at Khark Island. Meanwhile, large numbers of Revolution Guards left Shiraz, Khorramabad, and other Iranian areas for the battlefronts, according to Tehran radio.

For Iraq's part, an official spokesman cited by Baghdad radio denounced Iran's "empty statements and hollow threats," asserting that the "victories" referred to by "the stinking Rafsanjani" exist only in his "sick imagination." The spokesman urged the Iranian people to preserve "what remains of their sons" because otherwise the Iraqi Army "will again fill the land with their corpses."

As for Iran's differences with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi warned that the ICRC will be unable to operate in Iran unless it changes its officials and policy and unless the United Nations prepares an "accurate report" on the situation of Iranian POW's in Iraq, Tehran radio reported. The head of Iran's war Information Headquarters subsequently detailed Iran's criticisms of the ICRC at a press conference reported by IRNA, reaffirming that Red Cross officials in Iran have engaged in "espionage."

Iraqi Foreign Minister in Washington

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz arrived in Washington on 25 November at the start of an official visit to the United States, INA reported. IRNA predicted that U.S.-Iraqi relations will take a "new turn" after Aziz's scheduled meeting with President Reagan, and KUNA noted that the visit is expected to culminate in the restoration of diplomatic relations between Iraq and the United States.

Iran-PRC

Visiting PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian met with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Prime Minister Musavi, and Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, IRNA reported.

Syria

Rif'at Al-Asad — Radio Monte Carlo cited "reports" that Vice President Rif'at al-Asad left Paris for Damascus late on 25 November.

Saudi-UK Relations

On 24 November Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan received the British Air Staff chief for talks on military cooperation, Riyadh radio noted.

Afghanistan

Soviet and Afghan Government troops attacked a rebel stronghold in the mountains south of Kabul last week, the biggest operation in that area in 5 years, according to rebel sources cited by BBC World Service radio. The rebels said that in 3 days they repulsed the attack, shooting down 6 aircraft and killing about 120 government and Soviet troops, BBC added. Subsequently, on 24 November, the rebels attacked Kabul with Chinese and U.S. "long-range" missiles, killing 4 people and injuring 17 others, Kabul radio claimed.

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Further Reportage on PNC Convocation

Delegations Continue To Arrive

JN211626 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Delegations participating in the 17th PNC session continue to arrive in Amman. The PLO office directors in Australia, Tunisia, Switzerland, the United States, Malaysia, Bangladesh, the Maldives, Yugoslavia, and Portugal have arrived in Amman. Representatives of Palestinian communities in Norway, Yugoslavia, the Maldives, Spain, Pakistan, and Bangladesh and representatives of Palestinian communities in Arab countries have also arrived in Amman. The number of observers who have arrived in Amman so far to attend the PNC session has reached some 300 Palestinian, Arab, and world figures.

Husayn Receives Klibi, Moroccan

JN221416 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi at the Royal Hashemite Court today. They reviewed the latest Arab developments. His majesty also received Ahmed Bensouda, King Hassan II's adviser and Morocco's delegate to the PNC. He conveyed an oral message to His Majesty King Husayn from His Majesty King Hassan II. The Moroccan ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

INA: 230 Members Arrive

JN220707 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0700 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Text] Amman, 22 Nov (INA) — The PLO Executive Committee met late last night under Yasir 'Arafat. The meeting, which lasted until dawn today, dealt with preparations for the 17th PNC session to begin here today. With respect to the PNC, 230 of the 375 PNC members have arrived in Amman as of dawn today.

Algerian Delegation Arrives

JN221240 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Text] The Algerian delegation led by (Djaloul Malaeka), deputy speaker of the Algerian National People's Assembly, arrived in Amman to participate in the 17th PNC session. The delegation includes FLN member (Lakhdar Zwatin) and FLN official (Bashir Khaldun). An Algerian press delegation also arrived to cover the proceedings of the PNC.

Algerian Delegate Denies Reservations

JN221447 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1421 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Text] Amman, 22 Nov (PETRA) — (Djaloul Malaeka), member of the FLN Central Committee and deputy speaker of the Algerian National Assembly, who is heading his country's delegation to the PNC session in Amman, has denied that Algeria has any reservations about the current PNC session. In a statement to PETRA, the Algerian official said that subh reports are baseless, adding that the presence of the Algerian delegation in Amman to participate in the PNC meetings is the best means to refute this canard.

The Algerian official pointed out that the PNC meetings in Amman are natural; they derive special significance because they are being held in the proximity of our people in the occupied territory. He said Algeria has excellent relations with all of the Arab states and its pan-Arab stands are well known, particularly in regard to the Arab nation's central cause, Palestine.

Concluding his statement, the Algerian delegate saluted Jordan for hosting the PNC. He also greeted the legitimate Palestinian leadership and wished it success in this meeting.

Syrian Opposition To Take Part

JN221513 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1436 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Amman, 22 Nov (PETRA) — The Syrian democratic, national opposition has welcomed the convening of the PNC session in Amman. An official spokesman for the opposition delegation, which arrived in Amman to participate in the PNC session, said: We respect the Palestinian majority's decision to convene the PNC in Amman at a time when the Palestinian issue urgently needs to continue the struggle following numerous blows and conspiracies that are aimed at paralyzing its activities and effectiveness.

Two Al-Sa'iqah Members To Attend

JN221108 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Text] Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, stated today in Amman that the legal quorum for convening the PNC session this evening has been attained and that Palestinian opposition figures will participate in the PNC. Abu Jihad added that two Al-Sa'iqah members have arrived in Amman for this purpose. Representatives of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the PFLP will also attend.

Jordanian Delegation Named

JN211852 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] The Jordanian Cabinet has formed the Jordanian delegation to the PNC session as follows: Ahmad 'Ubaydat, prime minister and defense minister; Ahmad al-Lawzi, Senate president; 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the House of Representatives; Bahjat al-Talhuni, 'Abd al-Mun'im al-Rifa'i, Zayd al-Rifa'i, and Mudar Badran, Senate members; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, minister of court; Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister;

Tahir al-Masri, foreign minister; Layla Sharaf, minister of information; Shawkat Mahmud, minister of occupied territories; Ahmad al-Tarawinah, Walid Salah, Dr Hazim Nusaybah, Dr Subhi Amin 'Amr, and Akram Zu'aytar, members of the Senate; and 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali, Fu'ad Farraj, Isma'il Hijazi, Marwan al-Humud, Salman al-Qudat, Muhammad al-Haj 'Abdallah, Khalid al-Fayyad, and Dawud Sulayman, members of the House of Representatives.

Saudi Envoy To Participate

JN221505 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1432 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Text] Amman, 22 Nov (PETRA) — Saudi Arabia has decided to participate in the PNC meetings. It will be represented by its ambassador in Amman, Shaykh Ibrahim Sultan. This was stated by a Saudi Embassy spokesman in Amman today.

Democratic Alliance's Attendance 'Secret'

GF231334 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 22 Nov 84 p 8

[Text] Amman — Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] held a press conference in the Al-Quds Hotel on 21 November. In answer to a question from *AL-WATAN*, he said that the Palestinian Democratic Alliance will attend the PNC session but its attendance will be secret and not public because Syria will prevent those attending the PNC session from returning to Damascus. Abu Iyad said that the Fatah Central Committee has accepted the proposals of the 36 PNC members residing in Amman calling for reviving PLO institutions and for a comprehensive 2-month dialogue to be followed by a PNC meeting regardless of whether an agreement is reached or not. However, Abu Iyad said, it was the PFLP that violated the agreement to these proposals by not attending the PLO Executive Committee meeting in Tunis called by Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat].

PLF Will Not Attend

JN211243 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] The Palestinian Liberation Front [PLF] has stated that it will not participate in the PNC session in Amman — a session that 'Arafat and his Central Committee have called for. This came in a statement today by PLF Central Committee Secretary 'Abd al-Fattah Ghanim in reply to news agencies reports that the PLF office in Tunis has announced that it will participate in the PNC session in Amman with a delegation led by Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas]. Ghanim said that Abu al-'Abbas does not represent the PLF and that a decision was made to dismiss him from the PLF on 17 January 1984. He added that the PLF does not have an information office in Tunis.

DFLP Denies Participation

JN250950 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Jamil Hilal, official spokesman for the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], has said that the DFLP has previously stated its reasons for not participating in the current PNC session, stressing the dangers and political meanings of such a session in Amman.

In a press statement issued yesterday in reply to statements made by Salim al-Za'nun, alias Abu al-Adib, on the reasons for the DFLP's nonparticipation in the current PNC session in Amman, Hilal said: Abu al-Adib knows well that many of the PNC members from the DFLP live in Amman. Nevertheless, they did not take part in the PNC meetings. This means that the reasons for not participating in this session are not geographic as is claimed by Abu al-Adib.

In Aden, the DFLP representative denied a report in the Jordanian newspaper *SAWT AL-SHA'B* about his participation in the divisionist Amman session. He stressed that he abided by the DFLP's decision on not participating in this session, adding that he has not left Aden. A DFLP spokesman said in a statement released the day before yesterday that no DFLP member will participate in the Amman PNC session.

DFLP Sources on PNC Legitimacy

JN241749 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1710 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Nabil Darwish dispatch from Amman]

[Excerpts] Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] sources at the Palace of Culture in Amman have told us that the DFLP considers this session as the 17th PNC session in spite of the many critical remarks it has made against it. The sources added the PNC is a legitimate Palestinian institution. However, the DFLP's participation in the PLO Executive Committee depends on the political decision the PNC will issue. The sources explained that if resolutions violating or conflicting with the former PNC session resolutions and the Aden-Algiers agreement are made, then the DFLP will oppose them.

Al-Fahum Says No Quorum

JN211313 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] At a press conference held a short time ago, PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum reaffirmed his decision not to attend the PNC session in Amman. After enumerating the reasons for his decision he indicated that the PNC will not be able to secure the required quorum, which, according to the PLO's statutes and bylaws, is two-thirds of the PNC members. Al-Fahum added that the total number of PNC's members is 384, 6 of whom had died since the 16th session. Thus, the current number of PNC members is 378 and the required quorum is 252 members. He said that measures such as replacing any member of the factions, the popular unions, or military cadres, naming new members, or accepting resignations should be taken before a quorum is secured. During his press conference, Al-Fahum presented a list of 144 PNC members who apologized for not attending the session. This means that more than one-third of the PNC members will not participate in the session. Therefore, Al-Fahum added, the quorum will certainly not be secured.

Al-Fahum may have expressed the real situation in the Palestinian arena when he said during the press conference that the crisis is not over the convocation of the PNC, but over differences in policies that should be adopted by the PLO.

'Arafat Accused of 'Forging' Memberships

LD212320 Kuwait KUNA in English 2203 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 21 (KUNA) - Palestine National Council Speaker Khalid al-Fahum reaffirmed his conviction that Thursday's Amman council session was "illegitimate" and accused PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat of falsifying the council's membership in order to achieve a quorum.

In a telephone interview from Damascus with KUNA late Wednesday night, Al-Fahum replied to indications that the council might sack the speaker by asserting that any decision that the gathering might take would be invalid. Al-Fahum reiterated that he had the names of 144 PNC members who would not attend the 378-seat assembly. This means that the necessary two thirds quorum could only be attained by falsifying membership, he said. He charged that 'Arafat's supporters had already begun "forging" membership of the council, and said that Jordanian television Wednesday evening had introduced four people as PNC members who were not council delegates.

The meeting scheduled for Amman on Thursday would "not be a PNC session," he said. Al-Fahum reiterated earlier statements that he would "not permit" the PLO, the PNC or the PLO's Executive Committee to be split.

Al-Fahum Press Conferece on PNC

JN241704 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Damascus — PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum held a press conference in Damascus today. A number of PLO Executive Committee members and PNC members who refused to participate in the divisionist Amman meeting attended the conference. Al-Fahum stressed that the divisionist Amman meeting has violated the PLO's basic statutes and tampered with PNC's bylaws. He said: Everyone, even those who participated in that meeting, was assured that their meeting was illegal for a PNC session. During the press conference, Al-Fahum read the names of 168 members who boycotted the Amman council. Here are some excerpts from the press conference:

[Begin Al-Fahum recording] Thank you for attending this press conference that is being held under these difficult and critical circumstances. Now I will read some thing and hope you will follow them up. Four days ago, I met with you and explained some facts concerning the meeting being held in Amman under the guise of the 17th session of the PNC. This meeting had not yet been held when I met with you earlier. I meet with you again following the opening of that meeting so that I can place the following facts before you:

First, those who are responsible for that meeting have violated the basic statutes of the PLO and tampered with PNC's bylaws. Therefore, everyone, even those who participated in that meeting, was assured that their meeting was illegal, and, consequently, it is not a PNC. Second, Article 19 of the PNC's bylaws says that the PNC cannot be held unless a quorum is secured. This quorum is secured only if two-thirds of the members attend the session. [end recording]

DFLP Refutes Al-Fahum's Statement

JN211450 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] The Information Office of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] has informed us that Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, Jamil Hilal, Dawud Talhami, Nazim Fa'ur, and Isma'il Khalil have asserted that they did not inform PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum about whether or not they would participate in the PNC's 17th session, to be held in Amman tomorrow, and that they do not regard themselves parties to this illegitimate conflict, which aims to split the PLO.

On another level, an official spokesman of the Palestinian Communist Workers Party [Al-'Ummal al-Shuyu'i al-Filastini] has announced that the party calls for the largest possible national participation in the PNC's 17th session and appeals to the Democratic Alliance parties to exert further efforts to overcome the difficulties that prevent their effective participation in this session.

DFLP Affirms PNC Legitimacy

JN241749 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1710 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Nabil Darwish dispatch from Amman]

[Excerpts] Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] sources at the Palace of Culture in Amman have told us that the DFLP considers this session as the 17th PNC session in spite of the many critical remarks it has made against it. The sources added the PNC is a legitimate Palestinian institution. However, the DFLP's participation in the PLO Executive Committee depends on the political decision the PNC will issue. The sources explained that if resolutions violating or conflicting with the former PNC session resolutions and the Aden-Algiers agreement are made, then the DFLP will oppose them.

PFLP-GC on 'Arafat Quorum Deception

JN221442 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Damascus, 22 Nov (SANA) — In a statement distributed here today, the PFLP-GC warned of the exposed forgery that is being perpetrated by 'Arafat and the Jordanian media organs to secure legitimacy for the PNC session scheduled to be held in Amman today.

The front's official spokesman, Fadl Shururu, affirmed that Jordanian television's interview yesterday, Wednesday, with the so-called PNC members Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Labadi, representative of the physicians union; Ghassan Matar, representative of the peasants union; and Fahd al-Qawasimah and Muhammad Milhim, independent members, revealed the political and moral decadence of 'Arafat and his clique in their attempt to secure the legal quorum for the separatist PNC session.

He explained that the aforementioned names are not PNC members and that the annual name list issued after the conclusion of PNC sessions and the name list issued by the council chairmanship after the 16th PNC session in Algiers do not include these names. The spokesman warned against the exposed forgery game of 'Arafat and his clique who are making a desperate attempt to deceive people into believing that the convocation of the PNC in Amman is legitimate.

PFLP Statement on DFLP Freezing Agreement

LD222215 Kuwait KUNA in English 1841 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Text] Damascus, Nov 22 (KUNA) — The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] said Thursday it was sorry and surprised that its ally the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] had decided to freeze an agreement by which the two groups maintained a joint political and military command.

A statement issued by the PFLP Politburo after an emergency meeting Thursday night said that the freeze was "the best gift that could be offered to the Palestinian right wing." The decision, taken by the DFLP Central Committee on Tuesday, came shortly before the controversial PNC session which opened in Amman Thursday and which both the PFLP and DFLP have opposed and boycotted. The DFLP cited policy differences over the PNC session among its reasons for freezing the joint command, which was formed in June 1983. But the Popular Front said the joint command agreement made provision for such differences, by allowing each group to promote its own policy when not in accord with the other.

The PFLP and DFLP later helped form the Democratic Alliance, which sought to mediate between the mainstream PLO Fatah movement of Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and his Palestinian opponents. The alliance would continue unaffected by the decision to freeze the joint command, the DFLP had stressed. The Popular Front statement said, however, that it was keen to see the joint command continue as part of efforts by the two parties to reunify the PLO. It said a meeting to evaluate the 17-month-old experiment had been planned after the return of the two group's leaders, both of whom are now in Moscow, to their Damascus headquarters.

Amman Members To Present Compromise

JN211817 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Fu'ad Na'im dispatch from Amman]

[Excerpt] Ahmad al-Yamani [Abu Mahir], director of the PLO Information Office, said in Amman today that the follow-up committee that stems from the 37 PNC members who reside in Amman and who had tacitiy rejected holding the PNC in Amman on 22 November, is currently making intensive contacts in order to present a new initiative that would be an acceptable compromise. The initiative would allow the PNC to meet on the fixed date, discuss the financial report, and then adjourn for 2 months until the internal Palestinian differences are resolved.

Al-Najjab on Unity

LD211022 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0741 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Text] Moscow, 21 Nov (KUNA) — Sulayman al-Najjab, member of the Palestinian Communist Party Political Bureau and member of the Delegation of the Democratic Alliance Front, stressed that the political and organization roots of the Aden-Algiers agreement are the only base for protecting the unity of the PLO and for ensuring the continuity of struggle. He said he believes that this agreement has actually unified all the Palestinian people and isolated the forces that opposed it. He said the convening of the PNC in Jordan will not ease the crisis in the organization but tends to deepen it and threaten its unity, frontal structure, and its political plans.

Al-Najjab said in a statement to KUNA in Moscow: We have come to Moscow with a delegation representing all parties of the Democratic Alliance. The Palestinian national cause and the PLO are facing difficult circumstances, and our Democratic Alliance consistently and with preserverence calls for the need to protect the unity of the organization on the basis of its national plans embodied in the resolutions of the 16th PNC session.

He said: We reject attempts to split the organization, to threaten with its unity, or to make it depart from its legitimate policy and organizations which enjoy the support of the overwhelming majority of our Palestinian people and our friends throughout the world, headed by the Soviet Union. He said: Through its talks with the brothers in the leadership of Fatah, our alliance has been able to reach the Aden-Algiers agreement, the political and organization grass-roots of which is the only basis for protecting the unity of the PLO. Those forces which opposed it, whether from the right or from the left, are in isolation. We, as five of the parties signatory to this agreement, have made efforts to overcome the obstacles which prevent the PNC from being convened on the date scheduled in the aforementioned agreement, and these obstacles are not Palestinian but Arab obstacles.

Al-Najjab said: We, as a party and a democratic alliance, suggested a way out of this by reactivating the other establishments of the PLO, without disregarding or ignoring the importance of convening the PNC. By establishments I mean the Executive Committee and the PLO Central Council, because the continued paralysis of all the establishments of the organization are not only threatened by the danger of a split but are threatened by erosion and oblivion. From this patriotic sense the Democratic Alliance has persisted and continued its activities and contacts with all the Palestinian national forces headed by Fatah.

He added: We opposed the unilateral call to convene the PNC. Holding it in Jordan will not ease the crisis but only deepen it and present a great threat not only to the unity of the organization and its frontal structure but also to its political plans. We have put forward alternatives and we continue to believe there is still time to reconsider the gravity of convening the PNC in Jordan and to seriously seek other alternatives suggested by our popular masses which surged forward to carry out their role of protecting our organization and preventing it from splitting and falling under the influence of imperialist solutions, plots, and intrigue. The member of the Palestinian Communist Party Central Committee stressed that "the main threat to the PLO is still coming from outside and from the reactionary forces which historically plotted against the cause of our Palestinian people. Therefore, all Palestinian national efforts must concentrate on confronting these enemies. This requires the unity of all Palestinian national forces and their rallying round the PLO, because the PLO is considered the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and because it derives its legitimacy from this unity and from its struggle concept and national program which embodies the hopes and aspirations of our people to liberate the land and to self-determination. There is no other way out, and any attempt to unilaterally look for a way out from this crisis by convening the PNC in Amman will create further difficulties and problems for our people and their cause."

Al-Najjab went on to say: We will continue our efforts in the context of our current visit to Moscow, and we will have consultations with the Soviet Union, the loyal friend of our people, which recently put forward a comprehensive proposal that met with the support of all Palestinian nationalists. It was a proposal founded on firm adherence to the objectives of the Palestinian people and their legitimate rights and to the PLO as their legitimate representative that would play its full role, as a member with full rights, in an international conference bringing together all the interested parties. For this reason, the guarantee for implementing these constructive Soviet proposals lies in the presence of a unified PLO which rallies around it the masses of our people and which is committed to the objectives of our national struggle as decided by the previous conference of the PNC.

He said: We urge every Palestinian nationalist and every member of the National Council to think carefully before taking any step, to see whether such a step would serve the unity of our organization and whether it would guarantee continued existence for our organization. We are convinced that every nationalist will find an answer. A solution lies in sincere and honorable commitment to implementation of the Aden-Algiers agreement signed and adhered to by the basic factions of the PLO which have the support and backing of the Palestinian people, their allies, and friends.

Reportage on Opening of PNC Session

Deputy Speaker's Address

JN231045 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1532 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Speech by PNC Deputy Speaker Salim al-Za'nun at 17th PNC session in Amman on 22 November 1984 — live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. Your Majesty King Husayn, monarch of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; Brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces; Brother Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general; and brother representative of the ICO secretary general: In the name of God and for the sake of Palestine, I welcome you on behalf of the PNC members and this multitude of our Palestinian Arab people and on behalf of our steadfast kinfolk who, if they are not among us now, are present here through their struggle. The day before yesterday, they offered one martyr in Bir Zayt and many wounded. Thus, another martyr fell for the sake of the PNC. Allow me to announce our kinfolk's decision, the decision to struggle, and the decision to offer blood to call this session, the session of PNC martyrs. [applause]

Allow me also to open this 17th session in Amman, the twin of Jerusalem and the closest Arab capital to it. I greet in your name His Majesty King Husayn [applause], his government, and his people for hosting the PNC session after all the doors were closed in our face and after the United States pursued us everywhere to foil the convening of this session. Not content with opposing the convening of the PNC session, two Arab regimes resorted to threats and pressures, prevented members from attending, and threatened to set their houses in Lebanon on fire. Your Majesty, we will never forget this courageous stand which ignored all calculations, rejected the advice of a big power, ridiculed the Zionist enemy's threats, and rose above the level of cheap slander coming from Damascus. [applause]

Brothers, our people in Sabra and Shatila emerged with bleeding wounds. We came out of the 16th PNC session in Algeria with resolutions satisfactory to our people and the souls of our martyrs. We considered the Fes summit resolutions the minimum level for our political action to be completed by our military action. We emphasized the special and unique relations that link the Jordanian and and Palestinian peoples [applause] and stressed that the future relationships between Jordan and Palestine must be on a conference basis. Arab quarters highly valued these resolutions. We did not know that some of these quarters had something else on their minds, while others committed themselves to the implementation of secret resolutions arranged by Philip Habib in the cease-fire agreement on 10 June 1982, calling for the expulsion of Palestinian fighters from Lebanon. After this, preparations began to liquidate the PLO, the owner of the independent decisionmaking, to replace it by an agent and subservient organization.

We did not expect Ahmad Jibril to say after the 16th PNC session that it would be the last PNC session. We did not expect an Arab regime to say that the Palestinians failed in defending their cause, that there is no independent decisionmaking, that regional struggle has failed, and that one must return to pan-Arab struggle because Palestine is Syria's southern part. Brothers, we do not refuse to have Palestine become Syria's southern part if the Syrian Army participates in liberating it. We refuse to become a bargaining chip and to limit the issue to one of the borders after we have succeeded with our martyrs' blood in entrenching our cause as one dealing with a people's existence. [applause]

We reject some factions being used to pounce on us after having conspired in the dark. We reject the aborted coup they carried against Fatah, the backbone of the PLO. When offices and positions were occupied, they said that this was an inter-Palestinian difference. But when the fighters tried to defend or regain them, they said that this violated security. Brothers, this is how they sought to distort the image of our people's struggle.

They made world media portray our negative points, thus obscuring our positive points. They depicted us as comrades in arms who raise our guns against one another. They made the Palestine Liberation Army, stationed on Syrian territory, direct its weapons against its commander in chief, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], and his comrades. They sent tanks and artillery to strike Al-Baddawi, Al-Barid, and Tripoli. The world saw how unjust brothers can be.

Brothers, the 14th PNC session was held in Damascus in December 1979. President al-Asad opened it. At that session President al-Asad said the following: If the Egyptian president — meaning Al-Sadat — has forgotten about his commitment to the Rabat summit resolution appointing the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, we on our part have not forgotten. Anyone who abides by this resolution does not impose himself as the guardian of or substitute for the PLO. What has become of all this in light of what is taking place now?

President al-Asad also said: All Arab countries must provide all kinds of assistance and facilities to the Palestinian resistance through the PLO because it is the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. Our people have the right to wonder: Is this what is taking place on the ground? How can our people explain what Ahmad Jibril revealed in the Lebanese magazine *SABAH AL-KHAYR* and what was published by his paper *ILA AL-AMAM* that the plan to divide and pounce on Palestinian legitimacy had been prepared in Libya on the sidelines of the 1979 steadfastness and confrontation conference, where Al-Qadhdhafi pledged to offer money and weapons and the Syrian side pledged to transport the weapons to the factions which directly committed themselves to receiving them and to conspire to strike the PLO Executive Committee and the PLO itself?

A few days ago the French press said that the dispute is a dispute among Palestinians, a dispute between Yasir 'Arafat and his colleagues. However, has this dispute always been a dispute among Palestinians? When we reached the Aden agreement, we found that there was something else. The Syrian and Libyan regimes used their influence to undermine this agreement and obstruct any attempt to convene the PNC. Some Arab regimes did their best to prevent this PNC session, but the people's will has triumphed. Your PNC is convening here, blessed by the souls of our martyrs and supported by these large Arab and friendly delegations. Brothers Husayn and 'Arafat [applause] meet today to keep their pledge to this people, who are suffering in the occupied territories and whose lands are being confiscated and whose rights are being ignored.

Your Majesty, Brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, the Zionist enemy seeks to complete what it started. It secured its southern border with the Camp David accords, which all of us reject. The Zionist enemy is seeking to secure its northern borders in southern Lebanon through arrangements Murphy is preparing and which our people and the Lebanese fighters reject. The Zionist enemy is establishing the sectarian states that Ben Gurion and Moshe Sharret planned for the Arab region in 1954. The Zionist enemy, backed by its strategic ally, the United States, is planning to impose a substitute homeland for the Palestinians in Jordan. Sharon is also threatening to occupy the East Bank.

Brothers, we have accepted the challenge, and the PNC is now meeting with more than two-thirds of its members. We excuse those who were banned from attending. Those who prevented them from attending will shoulder the responsibility.

Let our people's representatives take to account anyone who has comitted mistakes within the framework of this PNC and not outside it. We call on the remaining members to join the PNC session, even if this takes place tomorrow or later, to unburden their conscience. We have nothing to fear. Here in this hall, member Ruqiyah Huri came on crutches, accompanied by two nurses and two members of her family, while some fear they will not be able to return to Syria if they attend the PNC session. We tell all those who differ with us in opinion and those who want to call us or Brother Abu 'Ammar to account that this is the only venue where good or bad deeds can be discussed. Come and let us discuss things, and let God be our judge. We have our deeds and you have yours.

I would like to thank all the fraternal and friendly delegations attending this session with us. I wish this session success. We shall continue to respond to the call of Palestine, and these storms which have been raised during the past few days disappear today with the convening of the PNC, which will bring radiance and satisfy our people and the souls of our martyrs. Revolution until victory! [applause]

Address by Arab League's Klibi

JN230930 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1556 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Speech by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi at 17th PNC session held in Palace of Culture, Amman — live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Your Majesty, Your Excellency the PLO Chairman, Mr Speaker, brothers and sisters: Pan-Arab duty calls upon me to be here with you today. Out of our concern for the PLO's unity, out of our firm conviction to continue efforts to regain unity to the Palestinian march, as a condition to bearing the burdens of the liberation war, and out of our pan-Arab commitment, my duty calls on me to address the conscience of the Palestinian revolution from this rostrum and from this Arab country which has a special relationship with the Palestine cause — this country whose land witnessed battles of heroism and sacrifice under His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal.

Zionist strategy is represented in efforts to strike at the revolution politically and militarily. In order to confront this Zionist intention against the Palestinian people and their legitimate institutions, the need to pool all potentials, close all ranks, and clarify the Palestinian political view becomes an inevitable, basic option. Safeguarding the PLO as a united political and military entity representing the Palestinian people and leading their struggle is a sacred duty. Duty calls on all — regardless of the various motives of the PLO factions — to maintain the PLO and its credibility. The most dangerous thing is to split Palestinian ranks, as has happened to other revolutions in the world.

The PLO, the leader of the Palestinian people and their militant struggle, proved in difficult and decisive circumstances its ability to adhere to the unity of the struggle and to the need to confront the Zionist enemy with closed ranks. Thus, it is no surprise if the PLO factions consider the unity of ranks, the unity of stands, the unity of struggle, and the unity of the Palestinian revolution as their most important priority.

Brothers, we are pleased at the continuation of fraternal dialogue between the PLO and Jordan here in Amman, one of our bastions confronting the Israeli enemy. This dialogue obstructs Israeli attempts to create disputes between the two homogeneous fraternal peoples. This dialogue will strengthen fraternal ties between the two peoples and reinforce opportunities to achieve an honorable peace within the framework of the Fes summit principles.

Brothers, by its firm pan-Arab stand in the struggle, by its very important strategic stand, and by its deterrent military strength, Syria is a major force in the joint effort to liberate Arab territory and achieve victory for the Palestine question. Herein lies the extreme importance of the unity of the struggle cohesion between Syria and the PLO. The responsibility of ensuring this cohesion is a primary pan-Arab responsibility which must be shouldered by not only the Syrian and Palestinian sides, but also by all Arab sides without exception. We are looking forward to continuing persistent efforts to entrench the fraternal Syrian-Palestinian dialogue in order to reinforce this cohesion and give it strategic and pan-Arab dimensions so that it will become, within the framework of accord and solidarity among all other confrontation states, the cornerstone to continue struggle to regain all occupied Arab territories and to establish the independent Palestinian state in Palestine with Jerusalem as its capital.

Brothers, we must work with all of our strength to see to it that Egypt returns to the Arab nation's ranks. We have always converged with Egypt on assuming our pan-Arab responsibilities toward Arab rights in general and the central cause in particular. The Arab family needs Egypt, and Egypt needs its Arab family. The role of Egypt or any other Arab country outside its natural framework is incomplete. We must regain Palestinian unity regardless of the sacrifices and efforts.

Address by ICO Representative

JN231026 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1623 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Speech in English by unidentified representative of ICO Secretary General Habib Chatti at 17th PNC session held in Palace of Culture, Amman, on 22 November; processed from Arabic translation read by unidentified speaker — live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. His Excellency ICO Secretary General Habib Chatti, being engaged in the meetings of the Islamic Thought Academy currently being held in Mecca, from which he was unable to release himself, gave me the honor to represent him in this meeting.

Your Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal, monarch of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; Brother Leader Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee; Mr Speaker of the council; your excellencies; dear brothers: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Under these delicate circumstances through which the PLO is passing we meet in this steadfast country whose people are facing the enemy with all their potentials in the longest frontline between the Islamic nation and the most brutal enemy known in its history. I want to assert that the first Islamic movement for cooperation, unity, and joint action of the Islamic countries stemmed from the Palestine cause. This means that the Palestine cause is not just that of the Palestinians and the Arabs, but also the cause of the Islamic nation — countries and peoples.

Dear brothers, the struggle waged by the Palestinian people for about 50 years to maintain the homeland and pan-Arab honor is one of the prominent struggles in the history of the world. The Palestinian revolution achieved great successes. World public opinion is supporting the Palestine cause today. We notice that the draft resolutions which support the Zionist entity and its aggressive policies are backed only by Israel and the United States in the Security Council and General Assembly. The PLO is recognized throughout the world as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

I call for the unity of all Palestinians within the PLO and for their cohesion. We are passing through delicate circumstances. Every day that passes reinforces Israel's fait accompli. We do not have time to waste. We have no right not to respond to the call of mind and belief. We must understand that we can achieve miracles with our unity; without it, we only serve the enemy. I am personally confident that this appeal will find response and that your PNC session will adopt decisions that will maintain the PLO strong and united along the path of liberation to raise the flags of glory and triumph.

Yasir 'Arafat Address

JN221823 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1638 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Speech by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, at the 17th PNC session held at the Palace of Culture in Amman — live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We did indeed offer the trust to the heavens and the earth and the mountains. But they refused to undertake it, being afraid thereof. But man undertook it. He was indeed unjust and foolish.

His Majesty King Husayn, dear guests, brother and sister members of the PNC: With a feeling of pride and honor, coupled by the duty of gratitude and respect, I begin my speech to you by addressing myself to our people and kinfolk in occupied Palestine and in all the countries of the diaspora in order to reaffirm the pledge between us and to repeat the oath that unites us, especially while we are in this important, historic meeting — the 17th session of our national council, which is meeting in the very important and complicated circumstances being experienced by our nation, and especially our Palestine question.

Holding of our session here in Amman, my brother his majesty the king, only a few kilometers from the soil of our usurped homeland — Palestine — and in the warm embrace of our Jordanian brothers, headed by His Majesty King Husayn, reminds us of our first session which was held in 1964 in Jerusalem. This session affirms the fraternal bonds between the two people in the one family, both now and the future, as well as in our common destiny in confronting the challenges, dangers and tribulations.

The mere convocation of our national council today, as well as the decisions it will make as a result of the democratic debates and discussions we will conduct out of our own free will, reflect a number of facts which I feel dutybound to point out and establish for our Palestinian people and Arab nation and for the world at large.

The first fact established by convening our national council today is the perpetuity of the PLO, and the failure of the U.S.-Israeli alliance and of all the forces that are hostile to our people and cause in eliminating the Palestinian equation from the Middle East question or destroying our national march. The convocation of our national council, which is the base of legitimacy for Palestinian struggle and the framework of the sole higher authority responsible for our people's march within the PLO, is the greatest and clearest proof that no power on earth can destroy or bypass our organization. Those enemies, and even friends, who imagine that the PLO is no more than a temporary phenomenon in our people's national life must revise their calculations today and reconsider their policies. This is because it is impossible for our people to withhold any sacrifices for the sake of preserving this great, historic accomplishment in their fateful struggle march in the difficult times now being experienced by our Arab nation.

The second fact established and emphasized by the convocation of our national council today, after all the hindrances, obstacles and pressures to disrupt and delay the session in a desperate attempt to paralyze all Palestinian institutions, is that the Palestinian people adhere to their free will which stems from a deeply rooted national stand and from an unshakable belief in their right to formulate their independent Palestinian national decision-making. On what, brothers? On the basis of pan-Arab commitment to the issues of our Arab nation, the common destinies, and the aspirations of this Arab nation from the ocean to the Gulf. Our revolution and organization have always been and will continue to be Palestinian in face, Arab at heart, and humanitarian in roots, dimensions, and extensions. This is our revolution, brothers.

The third fact established and emphasized by the convocation of our national council today is the genuine democracy practiced in the Palestinian arena. Despite the fascist plots and putschist, coercive attempts to which our democratic traditions were exposed after our departure from Beirut — plots and attempts that used fire and guns as a way to achieve their suspect aims — the belief of our people, cadres, and fighters in the Palestinian revolution has not been shaken. Here is our meeting today affirming this fact and declaring with all determination and resolution that the PLO's council and legitimate institutions are the only appropriate arena for solving all differences and considering all decisions.

After all these facts, there is a fourth fact which we have drawn from the convocation of our session in Amman in particular. This fact loudly proclaims that despite the conflicting policies, the vagaries of time, and the bitter experiences and tribulations we have experienced, there are political axioms that cannot be changed or overlooked; namely, that the bonds of kinship, fraternity, Arabism, common destiny, and common cause uniting our Jordanian and Palestinian people shall remain stronger than anything that might be imposed by temporary or transient circumstances. Your Majesty, some people think that this relationship is temporary and transient. It is deeper than that. [applause]

I would like on this occasion and in your name to extend our thanks and gratitude to Jordan — king, government, and people — for hosting this session of our national council, although I believe that our Jordanian kinfolk are embarrassed by these expressions of thanks and gratitude. This is because they believe in this noble fraternity and close bonds. I also thank my brother guests and the dear, loyal friends who took the trouble to be with us as they have always been through thick and thin. They are thus declaring their support and soldiarity with our struggle march — the march of freedom, justice, and peace in the land of peace, in Palestine.

Your Majesty, dear guests, brother and sister members of the council: Our council is meeting today in very complicated and dangerous circumstances and amid an Arab atmosphere about which the least that can be said is that the relations between brothers have reached the lowest levels of coordination and consultation, to an extent that it would take a miracle to convene an Arab summit meeting. There is no doubt that the Palestinian and his cause are the ones most harmed by this deterioration in the Arab situation. This is because the Palestinian is continuously aware of the dialectical relationship between his cause and the condition of his Arab nation. Whenever cooperation and coordination between Arab brothers is on an upward trend and whenever Arab relations rise to the level of solidarity and joint action, the Palestine question makes progress on the path of salvation and liberation. Conversely, whenever the Arabs and their unity and solidarity suffer, the Palestine question also suffers. This is the fate of the Palestine question which we have understood, accepted, and acted upon. Whoever seeks truth and fairness must recall all our efforts to serve as bridges for purifying the Arab atmosphere and restoring confidence among the various Arab capitals.

We must also not forget for one moment that in our confrontation with Israel and its alliances we need every brother and friend to stand on our side and to use his power and resources in narrowing and rectifying the balance of power and strengthening the means of confrontation. We have often said that if some Arab officials view the unity of our nation and the solidarity of its country as a means to achieve a better life and a brighter future, to us this unity and solidarity is a matter of life and death.

Therefore, I would like to emphasize one of the major lines of our struggle strategy in ensuring the desired level of joint pan-Arab action in the fields of confrontation in the service of our fateful issues, headed of course by our sacred cause — the cause of Palestine and Jerusalem and the liberation of southern Lebanon and the Golan. [applause] Despite our bitter experience in confronting the Zionist invasion of Lebanon, which lasted 88 days, and after the Philip Habib cease-fire agreement on 10 June 1982 — that is, 4 days after the outbreak of that war — we did not try to point out any negative Arab stand. We only concentrated on praising that legendary epic which was created by the solid will of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples [applause] and the heroism of the joint forces and the fraternal Syrian forces that were besieged with us in different places against more than eight Israeli military divisions, or three-quarters of the Israeli Army in addition to the Israeli air and naval forces. It suffices to remind you of the American report published on 10 October 1984 in *THE WASHINGTON POST* which revealed a major part of the Israeli losses in that war. The paper admitted that Israel lost 419 tanks, 612 vehicles, 23 planes, and 3,400 dead. The official figure given by the Israelis for their dead was 509. They later said 511. The American report refuted their claims. That was the last American report. I wonder what the next American report will say. [applause] The last American report said that 3,400 Israelis were killed and about 12,000 were wounded.

And despite our wounds and great sacrifices — we suffered more than 1,000 Palestinian and Lebanese martyrs and wounded — despite the destruction wrought in 17 Palestinian camps and 34 Lebanese villages, and despite the ruins in Sidon, Tyre, Al-Nabatiyah, and heroic Beirut, we always looked on the positive side of the experiment. Your Excellency the [Arab League] Secretary General, we only looked on the positive side. We indicated what the unity of the two peoples might realize in terms of steadfastness and achievements so that we might realize the great achievements we could have made had this unity and solidarity been bigger and the participation and cooperation more comprehensive; that is, larger than the Lebanese and Palestinian territories.

With this spirit and approach, we conducted the work of our PNC's 16th session in Algiers. We came up with the resolutions that were inspired by this spirit and approach. Here I would like to remind you of the report that was presented in that session on escalating the military action behind enemy lines — action that exceeded more than 355 operations in 3 months by the admission of the Israeli enemy itself, that is, at the rate of 4 operations per day. All these operations were launched under the signature of the Lebanese national resistance. Why was it issued in this manner? You must know this, everybody should understand this. It is because all this took place in accordance with a decision made by our Executive Committee in Damascus in order to bolster Palestinian-Lebanese ties and to support the popular stand in facing the Israeli occupation. [applause] This is for history, only for history.

Undoubtedly, the U.S.-Israeli alliance and its satellites were shocked to see the revolution continuing despite the pullout of its basic forces from Beirut, and to find the depth of the relations between the Palestinian and Lebanese resistance men. They were shocked to find the PLO enjoying more national and international support. This alliance had to continue its war against us with indirect or even direct methods of intelligence that were aimed at our internal arena and our national unity, O Brother Secretary General. [applause] We were surprised by a well planned, well prepared plan that came to be known as the mutiny within Fatah under false slogans. This was a prelude for a split within the PLO and for striking at the Palestinian march from within.

Then came the peak of the tragic, painful events, represented by the double siege in Tripoli and in the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid camps. Israel was coming from the sea and some Arabs — what can I say other than this — were coming from the land. They met around us, Your Majesty, in the first serious phenomenon in the course of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The result was more than 10,000 martyrs and wounded and a second withdrawal toward the sea within 1 year.

Here, and on behalf of our people and fighters, I can only thank President Mitterrand, whose forces participated in protecting our forces during the pullout; Prime Minister Papandreou, who offered us ships; our Italian friends, who transferred our wounded from Tripoli; the United Nations, which gave us its flag; and the International Red Cross, which made great contributions, particularly the exchange of Ansar Camp prisoners when we were under siege.

To Brother President Husni Mubarak [applause] and the Egyptian people and Army which participated in protecting the Palestinian forces despite the enemy's threats and protest; to these beloved brothers, the representatives of the Egyptian people, who are now among us, [applause] their concentrations and parties who came to share with us the cruel Tripoli siege; to the Algerian brothers headed by Brother President Chadli Bendjedid [applause] for their support for us in besieged Tripoli; to the Democratic German brothers, who surmounted difficulties in coming to our aid and who managed to pentrate the siege to reach us. [applause]

At the same time, a horrific campaign of casting doubt and distortion began and several false slogans were raised to conceal the conspiracy. Lies were unjustly and wrongly fabricated about the practices and morality. This does not mean, brothers, that there are no mistakes within the Palestinian revolution. No, brothers, I am not saying this. There are no erroneous practices. However, there is a difference between mistakes and the sins that were committed to destroy the PLO and to serve the U.S.-Israeli conspiratorial design and their agents. We heard from them various insults and names, but we refrained from responding to them. [applause] We continue to do this in order to defend our image and martyrs. We continue with our eagerness to defend as much as we can the image of our revolution and martyrs and the copious flow of blood from the arteries of our sons in defending Lebanon and Palestine, no, in defending all our Arab nation.

It did not take long for the conspiracy to be revealed. It is sufficient to go back and read the confessions of one of the symbols of this conspiracy so that everything will become clear and to expose the intentions that began, according to these confessions, during one of the steadfastness and confrontation meetings in 1978. It was not only a conspiracy to cancel the Palestinian figure, but also to cancel the Palestinian people from the region's political map. This, after these people had paved their path and achieved their gains through unceasing struggle and without hesitating in giving sacrifices and paying the heaviest blood tax — a tax that no matter how expensive, will remain cheap for the sake of defending the homeland, PLO, and the masses that the PLO represents and in defending everything that is free, honorable, progressive, and deep-rooted in our nation and Arab region.

However, this is not new to our struggling, steadfast, and persevering people. Our people rely on a magnificent heritage that emanates from a deep conviction of its deeply rooted Arabism and glorious religious tenets. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Among the believers are men who have been true to their convenant with God: Of them some have completed their vow to the extreme, and some still wait: But they have never changed their determination in the least. [Koranic verse]

It is definite that the conspiracy has not ended. It was not only directed against the PLO and the Palestinian people, but against anything its claws could reach from the Arab peoples and their countries. What is now taking place in Lebanon is the biggest proof of this, particularly after the sectarian monster has been released which constitutes a poisonous dagger directed against our nation and which was lying within its shell when we had a large and concentrated presence in Lebanon. Our national and pan-Arab line had an impact on the course of events. Anyone who reads statements, books, and memoirs of the Zionists will clearly realize that the sectarian partitioning of our nation is Israel's constant dream and its main objective to justify its existence and impose its control. After Egypt was removed from the fighting ring following Al-Sadat's signing of the two Camp David agreements — I definitely say that this departure from the fighting ring is temporary — Israel turned to the Arab east and began to inject its poisons into it to partition and fragment it. Anyone who follows the events in Lebanon will be faced with a painful picture that resembles what took place in the past when our country was divided into feeble emirates — feeble, sectarian cantons. This took place during the war with the Franks and the previous bad times. I told one of my brother Arab leaders that the capital of these cantons will only be Tel Aviv because Israel and the United States were behind these and established them. It will not be an Arab capital.

I do not want to talk much about Lebanon, although we are greatly indebted to Lebanon and its people and although we cannot repay that debt no matter how hard we try. We cannot for a moment forget the honorable stands of this country and its fraternal people toward our cause and people — stands that were not confined to a word exported for consumption as some do or for evading suspicions. These stands were baptized by blood and great sacrifices. I am fully confident that these genuine Lebanese people, with whom we lived, can protect themselves and their homeland and can preserve their honorable history in defense of the revolution and revolutionaries and in fulfillment of the pledge of loyalty and common destiny. We are with them strongly and unreluctantly and with all of our capabilities. We have shared everything with them. We shared with them the bad days because the good days were not in the dictionary of the joint suffering we had together. This is an occasion to greet from here the Lebanese people and their genuine revolutionary vanguards [applause] who are confronting the Murphy plan or the new Camp Murphy and the attempt to impose another agreement similar to the 17 May agreement — an agreement which, strangely enough, concentrates on the PLO. This is not allowed, according to international conventions, because the PLO is a third party. Here I would like to refer to two points in the agreement, so that the painful plot will become clear. First, guaranteeing that the PLO fighters do not return to southern Lebanon; and second, guaranteeing the so-called security of the northern borders of the so-called Israel against the Palestinian fedayeen. These two points are stipulated in the Murphy agreement or the new Camp Murphy, so that we can understand the plot.

This is also an occasion we must seize to praise this heroic national popular resistance in southern Lebanon — a resistance that was justly considered one of the most splendid wars of attrition against the Zionist enemy. I would not have revealed the Palestinian role that is resisting and fighting now with the brothers in the Lebanese national movement, [applause] particularly the Islamic forces in it, had it not been for the Israeli Army's massacres and crimes against our camps in 'Ayn al-Hulwah, Al-Miyah Wa Miyah, Al-Rashidiyah, and Al-Buss exactly as it did in the villages of Hahsbit, Ma'rakah, and Shmur, and the towns of Al-Nabatiyah, Tyre, and elsewhere in Lebanon. The Israeli enemy was not satisifed with these crimes to take revenge on our heroic fighters, but continued its crimes by carrying out savage air raids against Ba'labakk and its strugglers and against the children's schools in the Al-Jalil Camp in Ba'labakk and against Al-Aranib Island opposite Tripoli. It also raided the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid Camps. Lastly, there was that savage strike against a prison in Shtawrah, in which 81 of the best officers of the Palestinian revolution were killed. They were in prison because they refused to obey gangs or orders other than Palestinian orders.

This is on the exterior. As for our steadfast people in the occupied territory, they are suffering in an extremely serious manner. In addition to the attempt to cross our people out of the region's political map, the most serious operations of officially organized persecution and terrorism are taking place. There are attempts to create an intensive fait accompli settlement on our Palestinian land. This is accompanied by a process of looting and a premeditated policy to confiscate and swallow up the land, destroy institutions, Judaize the Islamic and Christian holy places, oppress and displace the citizens, control the sources of their life — including the water resources — destroy the social, health, cultural, educational, and demographic institutions, and escalate the official and organized terrorism against them. New Knesset member Kahane's terrorism is only one symbol and one element of terrorism added to the list of Zionist terrorism that is headed by Sharon, killer of women and children in Sabra, Shatila, Beirut, and Lebanon.

Our decision is to escalate the national Palestinian resistance with all civilian and military ways and means, in order to confront this Zionist occupation and this spiteful, terrorist scheme against our people. This is our right; it is ensured for us by the international conventions and the UN Charter. We send greetings of pride to these steadfast heroes in our occupied land, who are challenging the enemy terror and who are daily recording epics of steadfastness and challenge. Greetings to them, greetings to them, greetings to them. [applause]

The plot has not ended yet. After our departure from Tripoli, we tried to unify ranks, mend the cracks, and forget our wounds. However, we were met with a new move of plotting to paralyze the PLO institutions such as the PLO, the PNC, and other institutions with the ultimate aim of liquidating the PLO. It is regrettable and painful that this step came when our people needed their PLO and their institutions more than ever. We all are aware of our people's situation in the occupied territory and in Lebanon, of their dire needs in all fields and on all levels, and of the disasters that befell them in the wake of our departure from Beirut and Tripoli.

As responsible persons, we bypassed being individuals and organizations. We counseled patience and calm in order to save our march, our organization, and our legitimate institutions, which we had built brick by brick from this external tampering and interference. We paid their price in terms of our blood and martyrs. It is enough to say that hero martyr Sa'd Sayil was killed so that the plot could pass. We granted the dialogue among the PLO factions all of our resources in order to effect a success. Our people were very generous, particularly those steadfast people in our occupied homeland who support those who fight outside it. Our people expressed support for their organization. They expressed the desire to die in defense of their legitimate institutions. I greet our people inside and outside the occupied territory, from the Galilee to Gaza, from Janin to Hebron, from Nabulus to Jerusalem, from the Negev to Al-Yarmuk, from Nahr al-Barid to Al-Baddawi, and from Beirut to southern Lebanon. I greet of our people in the Palestinian diaspora. They have defied oppression, fascism, and terror and have maintained their sincerity to their revolution and to their sole, legitimate representative, the PLO.

In our stand toward the Palestinian dialogue, we were inspired by the spirit and genuine character of our people, who were facing a fateful phase of serious challenges that threatened their existence and cause. From them and their steadfastness, we were inspired by the need for working to bypass tests and difficulties in order to preserve our people's gains and to protect our institutions so that they may continue their role in leading the Palestinian struggle, representing it, speaking in its name, and confronting the liquidationist plots such as Camp David, the Reagan plan, and the new Camp Murphy.

Hence our insistence on continuing these intensive talks for more than 10 months until we were able to reach the Aden-Algiers agreement, which some of the Palestinian sides regrettably abandoned after signing it because of the pressure brought to bear on them by some Arab sides. These Palestinian sides' stands clearly reflect the importance of what we had always stressed and emphasized — namely, independent Palestinian national decisionmaking. This is because it is the only genuine guarantee for this firm, democratic base, of which we are proud and which we regard as a pioneering experiment in the revolutionary field and in the contemporary revolutionary experiment. It is the democracy of the revolution, the democracy of the forest of rifles.

Your Majesty, we here declare that these talks will not stop. This is because the revolution's heart is very large; it can accommodate all of its sons.

Here, I must thank the brothers in Algeria, my Brother President Chadli Bendjedid, and my brothers in the PDRY for exerting meritorious efforts until this agreement was reached, even though the well known pressures prevented some from continuing with it and also prevented other members of our Executive Committee and PNC from coming here and taking part in the proceedings of this council and expressing their free opinion on their people's march and the future of their cause. To these brothers, I send the greetings of our people and council. I also send greetings to our brother PNC members in our occupied land [applause] who were prevented by the Israeli occupation forces from joining us.

However, out of our national responsibility I call upon you brothers to supremely aim to ensure that our council will function with the spirit of the majority and to adhere to the brotherly and struggle ties between all of us. Your Majesty, dear brothers, dear guests, sister and brother PNC members. Anyone who reads and comprehends the Zionist ideological tenets and compares what he reads and comprehends with regard to the practices of the U.S.-Israeli alliance against our Arab nation and political reality will realize how this dreadful design succeeded during Al-Asad's reign and through the Camp David agreement by temporarily removing Egypt from the fighting ring. He will also realize its current moves to partition and fragment the eastern region into easily dominated statelets and cantons. The Iraq-Iran war followed to exhaust fraternal Iraq's capabilities, waste the Islamic nation's capabilities, and ignite a war whose flames spread to the Red Sea and the entire region. Here, I must direct your attention to a very important fact. The Palestinian revolution and its nationalist Lebanese forces received the 1982 blow in Lebanon under these circumstances — Egypt's absence and the preoccupation of Iraq and the region's countries with the Gulf war. The Palestinian revolution became aware of this bitter reality. In the midst of these dangerous and complicated developments, the Palestinian revolution charted its policy and strategy and decided and concentrated on the inevitability of standing fast and confronting the enemy in the fighting ring by using all available means, foremost of which is armed struggle and its escalation and defending and protecting our people in the face of these difficult challenges and great suffering. These challenges and the great suffering have reached a very critical stage, whether in regard to what our people inside the occupied land face on a daily basis or what our people in the diaspora face, including what our people in Lebanon face as a result of the continuing war crimes against them. This is one of our major tasks. Moreover, we decided to develop our armed forces and we are proud that this development has not stopped at any time despite all the difficulties following the departure from Beirut and Tripoli. The Palestinian revolution decided and embarked on an effective contribution along with all the Nonaligned Movement forces and Islamic countries and others to end the Gulf war since it is a war against two fraternal peoples, the Islamic nation and the Arab nation, and because the biggest loser in this war will be the Palestinian people and their cause — Palestine — which urgently needs the mobilization of all capabilities to liberate Jersualem and until our nation's flags are hoisted above holy Jerusalem, God willing.

Moreover, we embarked on our revolutionary course on the basis of what our 16th PNC session had concentrated on and of the importance of Egypt's return to assume its natural and vanguard role in our Arab nation away from the Camp David policy. [applause] Egypt's history, culture, deeply rooted people, and their human and military weight have not accepted the Camp David policy. Egypt and the Egyptians rejected the normalization which they tried to impose on Egypt. Egypt has entrenched its struggle on several fronts to confirm that it is an indivisible part of this Arab nation and has rights and duties. The battle is still continuing.

Your Majesty: The Jordanian concept about Egypt and relations with its genuine, faithful people was close to our Palestinian concept. Proceeding from this revolutionary course, we adopted a stand toward the entire situation in the region and the dimensions of the conflict. In Lebanon we stood firmly against the sectarian plot which they are trying to impose on this fraternal struggling people. We stood against this plot as an impregnable dam with our brothers in the Lebanese national movement for the sake of confronting it, preventing its implementation, and confronting Camp Murphy and its new results. Proceeding from the same course and out of our commitment to the decisions of our previous PNC session, there was the consolidation, Your Majesty, of our relationship with our brothers in Jordan, our brothers in the one family, in the common destiny, in Jordan, and the establishment of this distinct Jordanian-Palestinian relationship.

Following our departure from Tripoli by sea and following the tremendous difficulties we faced, we found great understanding and continuous help from His Majesty King Husayn and our kinfolk in Jordan. Therefore, we proceeded toward bolstering these Jordanian-Palestinian relations, thus epitomizing our previous PNC session's resolutions on establishing confederal relations between us. We take pride in the level reached by our fraternal relations, thanks to our fraternal and militant ties that are deeply rooted in history. Also proceeding from our revolutionary understanding, clear strategy, and concept of the pan-Arab dimension of our cause, we are supposed to exert every possible effort to rectify the relationship with our brothers in Syria.

Hence, we gratefully accepted and still accept all mediations made by both brothers and friends. We accepted the mediation of our friends in the Soviet Union. Comrade Aliyev came to Damascus in an attempt to achieve this goal. This mediation is still going on. This problem was one of the topics discussed between the Soviet officials and the Syrian president during the latter's recent visit to Moscow. We had previously accepted the mediation of Cuba, Romania, the GDR, and the mediations of other brothers and socialist friends. Within this context, I would like to thank His Majesty King Fahd, the GCC leaders, and the YAR for the efforts they exerted during the siege of Tripoli and for their continuous attempts to rectify Syrian-Palestinian relations.

We will not forget the valuable efforts of friendly Yugoslavia and India, especially the efforts that our late friend Mrs Indira Gandhi exerted in this regard. With her departure, brothers, we lost a great, pioneering friend of our people, revolution, and Arab nation. Our people and revolutionaries will remain loyal to the memory of the great deceased and her sincere, honorable stands toward our people's rights and struggle. It honors me here to send Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi a greeting of pride and appreciation, wishing him success in his new responsibility toward leading India and its people and toward leading our Nonaligned Movement. I assure him that this militant relationship which linked us with the great deceased will continue.

One of the pillars of our strategy and of our revolutionary course is to continue building a firmly established relationship with our friends in the socialist bloc, headed by the friendly Soviet Union, and to contribute to bolstering and strengthening our Nonaligned Movement and its friendly states. We will also continue to consoldiate the ties of friendship with the African, Asian, and Latin American states. We will also enhance our solid friendship with the PRC, the friend of our people and Arab nation.

We stress our relations with the Islamic states. We are concerned about their promotion and development. On this occasion, I highly value our African brothers' support for our cause and people at the recent Addis Ababa conference, particularly the utterances of our two great friends Presidents Kaunda and Nyerere as well as Prime Minister Mugabe and the other African leaders who declared their solidarity and support for the Palestinian cause — that it is an African cause in addition to being an Arab cause. We are proud that our revolution has these relations of struggle with the strugglers in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. We support the Namibian people and the people of South Africa against racial discrimination and strongly support SWAPO and the African National Congress. We consider ourselves in one trench against imperialism, Zionism, racism, racial discrimination, oppression, repression, and colonialism. Therefore, we will stand with Nicaragua.

From here I send greetings to the democratic, progressive Jewish forces that stood against war and terror and supported our national Palestinian rights.

Your Majesty, respected guests, brothers, sisters, members of the PNC. From our PNC, we declare our determination to continue the struggle in order to face all these challenges and plots with all the means available to us. We declare our determination to continue struggle in order to expose the aims and dimensions of the fierce imperialist-Zionist onslaught and confront it so that we may prevent it from taking our Arab forces one at a time and from controlling our nation and our region; and so that we may not allow the Israeli reign, which they try to impose on the region, from becoming dominant. We will struggle together to liberate our Palestinian territory; our Palestinian territory in the Golan, our Syrian-Lebanese-Palestinian Arab territory in southern Lebanon, in Palestine, in Tabah, in the Golan, and everywhere. I say this so that the near and far may hear me. I do not fight only for the sake of Palestine. I fight for the sake of every Arab area and territory under the hated Zionist occupation.

Let us struggle together in order to realize a just, permanent peace whose basis will be liberating our homeland and realizing the inalieneable Palestinian rights: our right to return to our homes and property, and to establish our independent Palestinian state on our Palestinian soil, with Jerusalem as its capital. We reiterate our adherence to international resolutions and legitimacy as a basis for any political move toward an international conference to be attended by all sides under UN auspices. We will always adopt the Fes summit resolutions as a basis for all of our moves because it is the basis on which all the Arabs have agreed.

We clearly announce this so that no person or side will have any illusions about any alternative homeland except Palestine. We clearly say this so that Sharon and those who belong to his school of thought may understand. All of us will stand as one man, in solidarity with our brothers and kinfolk in Jordan in order to destroy Sharon and his dreams and to answer his serious threats to Jordan.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Men said to them: A great army is gathering against you and frightened them. But it only increased their faith. They said: For us, God sufficeth, and he is the best disposer of affairs. [Koranic verse]

Your Majesty, dear guests, sister and brother PNC members, finally, we must arrive at my Cairo visit which I embarked upon and which created this great clamor. Part of this uproar stemmed from this concern and interest and was therefore a healthy phenomenon. The other side to this uproar was part of the overall vicious onslaught against us as a revolution and leadership. President Husni Mubarak provided at a bitter and difficult moment during the double siege protection for our forces from a flagrant threat directed by the Israeli leadership. At that time, I telephoned him and told him that they were directly threatening to strike at the ships in the middle of the sea. Some of my brothers here from the Egyptian leadership who are sitting in fron of me now know about these contacts. It was my duty as I was crossing the Suez Canal to go to him and thank him and the Egyptian people for this noble stand. Some might say why make such a unilateral decision. That means let us not be hasty. I was too far away to make any consultations with any brother member of the leadership. The leader has the right to make a decision at any moment or occasion and afterward will be judged on that decision. Your council has that right. I will gladly accept what your council may decide on this point in terms of resolutions or course of action, [applause] and regardless of what decision is made even though the decision to make the contact with Egypt was issued in the Executive Committee meeting on 17-18 1983 [as heard] in the presence of all the Executive Committee members including those who are absent. I was empowered, along with brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] with the task of continuing the contacts with Egypt according to the situation and circumstances. Several contacts were made before and after my Cairo visit by various parties in the Palestinian command.

Brothers, in seeking guidance, I reiterate what Caliph Abu Bakr said: I have been appointed to rule you, but I am not the best man among you. If I do the right thing assist me, and if I do wrong correct me. I also draw inspiration from what the just Caliph 'Umar ibn al-Khattab once said: God bless the soul of anyone who corrected 'Umar's wrong deeds. Since I am one of the giant Palestinian revolution's fighters and one of Palestine's sons, who was elevated through protracted suffering and grave sacrifices from the ground to this position, then I believe that it is the duty of the PNC to decide whether or not I and my colleagues in the Executive Committee should stay in our posts of primary responsibility or remain away from this post, because you are the Palestinian legitimacy and the independent Palestinian decisionmakers on the basis of our democratic principles and principal statute. On no soul doth God place a burden greater than it can bear. It gets every good that it earns, and suffers every ill that it earns. Pray: Our Lord condemn us not if we forget or fall into error; our Lord lay not on us a burden like that which Thou didst lay on those before us; our Lord lay not on us a burden greater than we have strength to bear. Blot out our sins, and grant us forgiveness. Have mercy on us. Thou art our Protector; help us against those who stand against faith. [Koranic verses]

Brothers and sisters, while I call upon you to exercise the right for which you were elected — free expression and an unwavering determination — I pray to God to make you succeed in benefiting your people and championing your cause and your nation. Finally, I turn to the real miracle workers in our land in beloved Palestine. I turn to all the children of my beloved country; I turn to every man and woman from our people wherever they may be. I press on their hands and say to them: Whenever darkness grows darker, the dawn will draw nearer. Our appointment is in the morning, is it not soon? In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: God made it but a message of hope for you, and an assurance to your hearts: In any case there is no help except from God, the exalted, the wise. [Koranic verses]

Glory and immortality for our pure martyrs. It is a revolution until victory. May God's peace and blessings be upon you. [applause]

King Husayn Address

JN222121 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1752 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Speech by Jordan's King Husayn at the 17th PNC session held at the Palace of Culture in Amman — live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Brother members of the PNC, friends and observers, honorable gathering: With an overwhelming feeling of happiness and cordiality, I greet you; and on the soil of Jordan and in its name I welcome you. On the approaches of Palestine, I send a greeting of loyalty to the its people. Through you, the representatives of the Palestinian people, I greet every Palestinian. Welcome in Amman and among its people; nay, welcome among your own people, clan, brothers, kinsmen, sisters, and in-laws. Welcome on the soil of the twin brother. Welcome in Jordan, the beacon of hope and the bastion of steadfastness. [applause]

Brother and sister members of the PNC, your council meets today with a legal quorum despite the inability of your brothers in the occupied territory and elsewhere to attend. You are meeting in the 17th session after you have defeated the attempts to impose tutelage on you. You have thus determined your stand, entrenched your people's national unity, and affirmed your legitimate representation of this people. For their part, your people renewed their confidence in you after you have proved to the entire world your ability to preserve the independence of Palestinian decisionmaking, the competence of your institutions, and the earnest policies of your organization — the PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people. [applause]

Brothers and sisters, the convocation of your council in Amman represents the unity of your will and the will of your people in the occupied homeland and elsewhere. It also represents the cohesion of the efforts and wills of two fraternal peoples, which have been demonstrated by their confrontation of the common challenge and danger. It is a natural return to what should and would continue to be. The Jordanian people have, more than and before anyone else, shared with the Palestinian people their sorrows, sufferings, and sacrifices and also carried with them their hope, determination, and resolution to regain their legitimate national rights on the land of Palestine. Jordan, and with it my family, have more than and before anyone else stood by the Palestinian people in confronting the Zionist danger in the early days just as we are confronting it today while it is at its peak. We are not saying this in order to outbid, maneuver, or seek praise, but to affirm an objective fact that has been made evident by actual participation in facing the common danger.

Al-Sharif Husayn, God rest his soul in peace, [applause] sacrificed his throne in defense of Palestine's Arabism when he refused to sign the treaty with Britain unless it provided for the cancellation of the Balfour Declaration. The late King 'Abdallah ibn al-Husayn [applause] sacrificed his life in his sincere effort to save the biggest part of Palestine. Through his sharp discernment, he knew the significance of the historical phase through which our nation was passing and the dimensions of the international plot that was being hatched against Palestine.

The late King 'Abdallah called for accepting the 1947 partition resolution and fought when war was unavoidable. Despite its restrictive political circumstances and limited resources, Jordan was able to retain the biggest part of Palestine. Moreover, despite the merger that took place in 1950 on the basis of constitutional parliamentary rule and equality in rights and duties among the citizens, the unity declaration affirmed the preservation of all Arab rights in Palestine and the defense of all those rights by all legitimate means and with the full right as well as nonencroach ment on the final settlement of the just Palestine cause.

In harmony with the purposes of the unity declaration, we backed the establishment of the PLO. I personally opened the first session of the PNC on 28 May 1964 in Jerusalem. I told your brother representatives of the Palestinian people in that meeting, among other things, that your convention represented a unique, historic event in the entire history of the disaster. I said that it was the first meeting of the heroic struggler Palestinian people despite all the designs to scatter them to all the four courners of the globe. So you can see from the historical facts that we — as a Hashemite family and a country — have never disavowed, God forbid, the Palestinian identity and aspirations or tried to dominate Palestine and its people.

Brothers and sisters: Following Israel's occupation of the West Bank in 1967, we in Jordan and our brothers in Egypt devoted our efforts to achieving two objectives: first, rebuilding our Armed Forces which were destroyed by the war; and second, working politically for the sake of regaining the territory that was occupied by force. We cooperated with sister Egypt in issuing UN Security Council Resolution 242 which formed the basis of our political actions. The late leader President Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir urged me during our first meeting after the June war to do anything and exert every effort to regain the occupied territory. I did not need anyone to tell me to do that. By God, I have never showed cowardice and will not show cowardice when it comes to defending Jersualem and Palestine. [applause] I have done all I could with God's help. I have spared no effort and pursued every course.

In the meantime, however, the PLO emerged as an effective party in the Palestinian arena. Its growth produced a natural tendency among the Palestinian people to manifest their national identity on their land. Their effort to regain the occupied territory was marred by doubts about the possibility of establishing their national authority on the land of Palestine once Jordan had regained the West Bank. A clear Palestinian trend evolved to relieve Jordan of this responsibility. This trend was nourished by an illusion that the restoration of the territory was around the corner. It was also nourished by all those who considered the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship as committing all Arabs equally to the fate of the Palestine question and to the duty of saving it, and, consequently, everyone who preferred to place the direct and primary responsibility on the Palestinian people, thereby placing the Arabs in the second rank. [sentence as heard] This was what we resisted as much as we could and considered as a relinquishment of a sacred duty at a time which did not permit such a thing. One could have imagined such a trend, if it had come before the entry of the Arab armies into the land of Palestine in 1984. But for this trend to come after all of the Palestinian territory had fallen to Israel, then it cannot but be construed as an attempt to let down the Palestinian people.

As a result of this, a secret conflict began between Jordan and the PLO. Because of the confused vision, this conflict led to a collision that resulted in regrettable incidents. We in Jordan faced a dilemma. If we capitulated to this approach, we would have improved the position of the enemy, who employed any pretext, however flimsy, in order to deceive world public opinion, strengthen its false claims, and annex the occupied territory. If we had continued our political work as we began it following the 1967 war, without paying attention to our Palestinian brothers' fear, our brothers' doubts concerning our aims would have increased.

In order to come out of this impasse, in 1972 we proposed a formula to reorganize the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship after liberation. We wanted to reach a compromise between our pan-Arab responsibility of working in the international arena in order to restore the West Bank in accordance with Resolution 242, and our affirmation to the Palestinian brothers that Jordan recognizes their national identity and that Jordan has no ambition in their territory. For this relationship, we presented three options on which the Jordanian and Palestinian people would vote in accordance with the usual democratic means in the event the territories were restored. The first option was restoring the relationship to what it had been before the occupation. The second was a balanced federation between the Jordanian and Palestinian regions. The third was establishing an independent Palestinian state.

Our proposal did not meet with agreement. Then came the October war, which surprised us in terms of its timing and planning. We waged this war practically on Syrian territory, while preserving our positions on the longest lines of confrontation so that the enemy would not use them in an aggression against the Arab nation. Then came the UN Security Council Resolution No 338, affirming Resolution 242. Fraternal Syria joined the Jordanian-Egyptian political effort. The Geneva conference was held in January 1973, and the United States began replacing the United Nations as a third party in the peace process. With the entry of the United States, Jordan was shunned from the peace process which was led by former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. It transpired that the peaceful efforts were devoted to the Syrian and Egyptian sides, and not to the Palestinian sides. Our Arab and Palestinian brothers formed the opinion that it might ease the problem if the PLO replaced Jordan in regard to the West Bank, especially since one of the things Israel used to say was that Jordan has no right to claim the West Bank because it had been an occupying state.

In Rabat in 1974, we responded to the Arab approach. A unanimous resolution was issued stipulating that the Arabs should commit themselves to restoring the Palestinian people's rights in accordance with the decisions of the PLO, as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Thus, the political burden transferred from Jordan to the PLO. Israel, which had been regarding Jordan as an occupying state, suddenly announced its refusal to talk to the PLO and demanded to talk with Jordan. Israel was fully aware of Jordan's commitment to the Rabat resolution.

The features of the plot became apparent. After paralyzing Jordan's role, the moves to paralyze the PLO's role began. This was confirmed a few months after the Rabat resolution, when the former U.S. secretary of state pledged to Israel that the United States would not talk with the PLO. This was in response to one of Israel's conditions, so that it might sign the second disengagement agreement with Egypt. By these stands, Israel aimed to create an atmosphere of confusion and to paralyze any political moves that have any connection with the Palestinian factor in the Middle East crisis. Israel wanted to gain time, which it used in order to change the status of the occupied Palestinian territory, particularly Arab Jerusalem.

The purpose was clear and unambiguous. It was the endorsement [tajyir] of the Rabat resolution in favor of Israel by claiming that Jordan had ceded its right to claim the West Bank and that the PLO is not qualified to talk on behalf of the Palestinians. We in Jordan realized the danger and dimensions of the game. We announced in every forum and on every occasion that we adhere to the Rabat resolution and that the PLO is qualified to speak on behalf of the Palestinians, considering it the only side representing them. In the meantime, we did not forget to emphasize UN Security Council Resolution No 242 — considering it the only resolution that was passed unanimously by the highest international body — that terms the Israeli presence in the Arab territories as occupation, and stipulates that this occupation should be terminated in order to reach a just, peaceful settlement.

Brothers and sisters, despite the attempts of Israel and its supporters to obstruct the PLO's political role, the PLO achieved noticeable progress on the international level. It obtained the seat of observer at the United Nations, most world countries recognized it, it began to participate responsibly in the activities of international and regional organizations, and occupied a prominent status as a movement of national liberation representing a people under foreign occupation. With the rise of the PLO's status internationally, plotting against it increased. When Israel realized the futility of opposing it politically, it planned to strike it militarily, imagining that destroying the PLO materially would finish it politically. Then came Israel's invasion of Lebanon in the summer of 1982. The Palestinians and their Lebanese allies fought it alone. They held out in the face of the haughtiest military power in the Middle East. They put up a splendid heroic steadfastness. They were besieged in Beirut without getting help from anyone. Under the barbaric Israeli air, ground, and sea strikes, they were forced to leave Beirut in order to save its civilian inhabitants. The majority of the Palestinian fighters left Lebanon and took their institutions with them.

For a while Israel thought that the PLO was finished politically. But it was disappointed for the second time when it discovered that the PLO was still maintaining its position as the Palestinian people's representative and that the world was still dealing with it accordingly. In light of the invasion of Lebanon, the world has even viewed the PLO more seriously and the role it may play in solving the Middle East crisis, especially after the world public became certain about the Palestinian people's adherence to their organization both inside and outside the occupied territory.

While the PLO was busy rearranging itself after the Fes summit, and while Israel was busy defending its invasion of Lebanon internally and externally after the failure of its campaign became obvious, the PLO suddenly found itself fighting on a new front; namely, its domestic front. The situation was both dangerous and unacceptable, especially since Israel had patently failed to destroy the PLO and obliterate its role. What aggravated the situation was the fact that some Arab brothers had encouraged the dissident movement under the pretext of reform and interfered in the PLO's affairs before the eyes and ears of all without bothering to relinquish their commitment to the Rabat and Baghdad summit resolutions, which called for refraining from interference in the PLO's internal affairs. Like the rest of the world, we were astonished and could not explain what was happening. But before long it became clear that the assault on the PLO this time was meant to destroy it from within by casting doubts about the legitimacy of its leadership and institutions — an objective which Israel failed to achieve through dealing a blow to the PLO from outside.

Subsequent events demonstrated to all that the independence of the Palestinian decision as stipulated by the Rabat resolution was targeted at annulling the PLO's role. They also demonstrated that to some the Palestine question is a mere instrument to serve their domestic, regional, and international objectives.

The Palestinian people inside and outside the homeland realize what is being harbored against their organization. They clearly and firmly support legitimacy and independent decisionmaking. We in Jordan realize what is being planned against you and your organization and, subsequently, us. We supported you in the battle to preserve legitimacy just as we supported you during the Beirut and Tripoli sieges within our capabilities and the considerations of the place. Your meeting here today within your national council is definite evidence of the triumph of Palestinian will, legitimacy, decision, and determination to adhere to one loyalty and a common objective [applause] — Palestine and the Palestinian people. [applause]

Brother and sister PNC members, the years go by, more than 17 years have passed, and the West Bank and Gaza Strip are still under occupation. The enemy continues to plan and implement. Jerusalem remains steadfast, patiently moaning whenever a Jewish castle is built upon it. The Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock are being threatened with demolition and destruction and declared open to everyone by the delusions and thoughts of the fanatic. The holy and cherished land is being swallowed up every day through confiscation and appropriation or on the pretext of security and planning. The national character of the Palestinian economy is obliterated after becoming part of Israel's economy.

The future is just like the present, shrouded with doubt, anxiety, and uncertainty. As for the kinfolk, may God help them; despite every form of institutionalized pressure against them they remain steadfast. How long will we watch as the enemy exploits the time by greedily swallowing up another part of the remaining land every day while we wildly and thoughtlessly waste the time in arguments and vituperation. How long shall we heed those among us who say: Leave it for future generations. Is this not a clear abdication of responsibility? Is each generation not responsible for the era in which it lives? What makes them believe that the circumstances of future generations will be more conducive to achieving what they are avoiding to achieve? Can they stop time and progress for the enemy, and keep time and progress moving for themselves? What wisdom or morality is there in leaving future generations a heavy legacy more likely to grow than recede? Will the Palestinians, who are lost and suffering in the occupied land, accept such arguments when they know better than anyone else the meaning of giving the enemy more time and the impact of this on their existence and future?

The least that can be said of this argument is that it is escape from responsibility. The least that can be said of the advocates of this argument is that they are those who believe that the world is synonymous with their own existence. This is not the way the world works. Each generation has its own responsibilities. The justifications of the existence of any ruler depends on the wise and courageous fulfillment of his responsibilities and the sincere and vigorous implementation of his duties. If time has any meaning it is in properly using it and not in suspending it.

In this presentation, my intention has been to delineate, with the utmost precision, the position of the Palestinian issue in the Arab mind and the political map. Perhaps you share with me the view that the picture is bleak, and, consequently, requires a new outlook and course. The new outlook must necessarily start with defining future action. Perhaps the natural starting point is to emphasize the special relationship between Jordan and Palestine — a relationship forged by the purely objective factors of history, geography, and demography which have placed the two fraternal countries and peoples since the turn of the century in the same boat of suffering, hope, interest, harm, history, and destiny.

The special quality of our relationship is not a whimsical description that we have given to ourselves, but is a scientific fact which has made the Palestine question a central daily concern in our life and the pivot of our defense, foreign, and development policies. If the Palestine question is one of the first priorities of our brothers' foreign and defense policies, to us and to you the Palestine question is our top priority. Therefore, Palestine was never a political tool which we used to achieve our national or selfish aims. [applause] Palestine embraces Jerusalem, the cradle of Jesus, may peace be upon him; the place from which Muhammad, may peace be upon him, ascended to the heavens; the playground of Al-Shafi'i [founder of one of the 4 orthodox Islamic schools]; the battlefield of Salah al-Din; the resting place of Husayn ibn 'Ali; and the martyrs' ladder to glory. It is also the invaders' threshold to Jordan, just as Jordan is the conquest [fath] gateway to Palestine. [applause] Defending Palestine means defending Jordan and vice versa. This is the special relationship which has governed and will continue to govern our Jordanian policy. This is the distinguished policy which the enemy has tried to break up in order to achieve his designs. Some people tried to distort this relationship by giving it attributions it does not possess and that serve the tendency of one wing to dominate another.

This is the relationship within whose framework the first Palestinian conference was held 20 years ago and under whose canopy your council's 17th session is held in Amman today. This special relationship, brothers and sisters, encourages me to speak to you frankly. In order to eliminate any doubts about what I am going to say, I would like to affirm right from the beginning that nothing has been proposed to us in the efforts for a political settlement of the Palestine question. What I will say represents our opinion on the basis of our experience and analysis of the reality, possibilities, and circumstances. I am encouraged in this by the fact that you, too, are experienced people.

I hope that my speech will not be understood to mean that I, God forbid, will interfere in your affairs. The decision is yours. Jordan will not speak on your behalf, [applause] although it will remain fully ready to face its fate with you, because our fate is interconnected with yours. If the future seems too dark, as I have said, it is because one of the causes that made it so is that the special relationship binding Jordan with Palestine was eliminated from the Arab and Palestinian action. This has diverted the general effort from its correct course and has expended it in the wrong field.

If matters seem difficult now, it is because of the time we have wasted in differences, disputes, and vituperation. Although we have exerted sincere efforts to rectify matters, the Arab reality prevented us from achieving our aims. We thus enabled the enemy to exploit time in order to change reality on the land of Palestine in its favor. We failed to combine the justice of our cause with our financial and strategic resources in order to curtail the effect of the absolute U.S. support for Israel. We made our regional concerns dominate our pan-Arab responsibilities. All this has led to our present disunity and squandering of our resources.

Brothers and sisters, because we will be harmed the most as a result of the continuation of the present state of affairs, we shoulder the greatest responsibility for rectifying this situation. So far, we have succeeded in foiling attempts to paralyze our role and yours. Experience taught us to renounce immobility, which is no less harmful to your role than the attempts to undermine your legitimacy. Dealing with an issue like the Palestinian issue demands a great amount of flexibility and dynamism that is capable of adapting to circumstances and facing the challenges with the aim of reaching a clear aim — namely, liberating the land and freeing our kinfolk and sacred places. It is stagnation to be satisfied with saying: I want this or nothing. Even adopted positions need revisiion from time to time and a new look in light of changes and developments.

Dealing with the world necessistates permanent flexibility and dynamism. Let us remember that slogans will not be raised if they become chains which tie those who raise them and prevent them from moving and maneuvering. Principles would not have been embraced had they not been beacons of light to lead the way during work.

Let us be frank with you, brothers, about your sacred cause, which concerns us as much as it concerns you, and the ramifications of which affect us as much as they affect you. In general, the international stand believes that it is possible to regain the occupied territory through a Jordanian-Palestinian formula which gives both sides certain commitments world considers essential for achieving a just and balanced peaceful settlement. If you are convinced of this option, notwithstanding our bonds as to families as well as the common destiny and common cause that unite us, we are ready to proceed together on this path and to present the world with a joint initiative for which we will rally backing and support.

However, if you believe that the PLO can proceed alone, we will tell you to go ahead, with God's blessing. And we will give you our backing and support. The decision will be first and last yours. And we will respect it, whatever the case. This is because it stems from your esteemed council, which represents the Palestinian people. [applause]

Brothers, if you decide to take the first option — the Jordanian-Palestinian option — then allow me to present to you our idea of how to get out of the present situation and into the arena of effective, rejuvenating action. The existing conditions in the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas prompt us to adhere to Security Council Resolution 242 as a basis for a just, peaceful settlement. The principle of territory in exchange for peace is our guideline for any initiative we may present to the world. This principle is not a precondition, but the framework through which the negotiations would be held. Therefore, it is not negotiable.

The negotiations which we consider essential within the framework of an international conference for peace would revolve around the ways and means and the adquate guarantees for achieving the principle of territory in exchange for peace. As for the international conference, it shall be held under the supervision of the United Nations with the participation of the permanent member states of the UN Security Council and all the parties to the dispute. The PLO shall attend it on an equal basis with the other parties, because it is the party authorized to speak about the most serious and important dimension in the Middle East crisis — namely, the Palestinian dimension.

As for the question of regulating the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship, it is the primary responsibility of the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples. No one has the right to determine this relationship on their behalf or to interfere in it, be he enemy, brother, or friend. This is because this would be a detraction from Jordan's sovereignty and open interference in the Palestinian people's right to determine their own destiny. Furthermore, involving this issue in the efforts to regain the territory would enable the enemy to obstruct any serious effort to save this territory from the existing occupation and gradual annexation.

In our opinion, these general outlines can form the overall framework for a Jordanian-Palestinian initiative which we can present to the Arabs so that they can support it under the Fes summit resolutions. Then, we and our Arab brothers would present it to the world, giving it all our support. This would continue until the circle of support for this initiative expands to include the entire influential world. This is our own idea. We do not oblige you to accept it, and we do not impose it on you. The decision is yours, and the responsibility is yours. We are only presenting it to you for the viewpoint of our participation with you in the two states of security and danger, and benefit and harm. We are ready to do anything for the sake of your cause — which is our cause — except concluding a unilateral peace [sulh].

Let us remember that the Arabs and the world will judge you by the results of this session of your council. We are not trying to outbid each other. The problem is not that of outbidding. The issue concerns the truth regarding our approach to evincing a joint stand on which people will meet. There is nothing to differ over as long as Palestine is the aim on which we meet. The occupied territory can tolerate no courtesies or one-upmanship. Both are weapons we place in Israel's hands in order to complete its plans and programs for annexing this territory and expelling its inhabitants.

The one-upmanship against you began when you announced that you would hold your 17th session in Amman with the aim of freezing your movement and eroding your legitimacy. Some said that holding the council in Amman is significant, implying that cooperation with Amman is treason or apostacy. We tell them: Yes, holding the PNC in Amman is very significant, because the people of the occupied territory see this significance; the Palestinian people welcome this significance. This significance is the possibility of crystallizing a Jordanian-Palestinian stand and building a correct stand based on correct action on the right path.

In any case, the issue is for you to decide, and the option is yours. The problem is that of conviction and self-confidence. Either there is or there is not an intention and determination to work. The question that our kinfolk pose to us is whether or not we are on the required level to make clear a cohesive Jordanian- Palestinian stand that would block the road to any side that tries to infiltrate our ranks and open the way for a unified, strong action. Your answer to this question is the one which history will record for you, because this answer will be the last opportunity that deserves the efforts to save the territory, the kinfolk, and the sacred places.

Brothers and sisters, members of the council, again I welcome you in Amman. You are a bright hope in the eyes of the Palestinian orphans. Your are a consolation to the widows and bereaved mothers. You are a new link of struggle in the minds of the detainees in enemy prisons. You meet in Amman while all Palestinian eyes are looking at you, awaiting your discussions and decisions. Today, you are the focus of the world attention. You have met in your national council, the source of your power and the supreme political authority of the Palestinian people. You are the decisionmaker for the policies that should be drawn up and the resolutions that should be taken concerning an important issue whose scene of events constitutes one of the hot spots on regional and international maps.

Your country and people need your wise, decisive decisions. They expect you to plant a new seed for a new beginning. We pray to God to lead you to success. The issue is within your responsibility. If your decisions reflect the hopes, ambitions, and interests of your people, success will be on the side of these decisions, because they will receive their support. Remember that your power is first and last derived from your people and your faith in the justice of your cause.

Begin your deliberations with the blessings of God. Direct your vision toward Jerusalem. Rely on God. In God's name, I declare your 17th session open. I pray God to grant you success and to make your goal the deliverance of our territory and kinfolk. God responds to prayers. God's blessings and peace be upon you.

Reaction to Opening PNC Session Speeches

'Arafat on Husayn Speech

JN251940 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1850 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Amman, 25 Nov (PETRA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has said that he will tour Arab countries after the PNC session. He will be accompanied by members of the PLO Central Council and the PNC and will inform Arab leaders of the results of the PNC meetings and the circumstances that made it necessary to convene the PNC at this particular time. In a statement to the PETRA correspondent, 'Arafat added that King Husayn's speech opening the PNC's 17th session and the ideas which his majesty presented will be discussed within the PNC and the Executive Committee.

Regarding moving the PNC headquarters from Damascus, 'Arafat said: The matter is up to the PNC speaker and members. There is no thought about moving the Executive Committee's headquarters from Tunis.

On the dialogue being held in Amman with a delegation from the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], 'Arafat said: Dialogue with the DFLP and others has not stopped for one moment. He asserted that he always speaks on behalf of all the Palestinian people and the PLO, and not on behalf of any organization or any other faction.

Khalaf on Husayn's Initiative

JN231019 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] has made the following statement to PETRA: We agree in principle to the initiative His Majesty King Husayn put forth at the opening of the 17th PNC session yesterday. Abu Iyad added that this initiative will be discussed in the PNC session because it constitutes a formula for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian move and dealing. The initiative will also be discussed in detail with His Majesty King Husayn and Jordanian officials.

Further Khalaf Remarks

JN241729 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] has called for Arab cohesion and solidarity in order to present an initiative to world opinion — an initiative that is close to the Fes summit resolutions and is not based on UN Security Council Resolution 242, which we reject.

In press statements published in Amman today, Brother Abu Iyad said: We understand the initiative King Husayn had proposed in his speech at the opening of the 17th PNC session the day before yesterday as a form of Jordanian-Palestinian action, and we agree in principle with the initiative. He added that this initiative will be discussed in the PNC session because it consititutes a formula for joint Palestinian-Jordanian action and cooperation. He said the initiative will also be discussed in detail with King Husayn and Jordanian officials.

Brother Abu Iyad praised Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation. He said: We agree to the formation of a Palestinian-Jordanian action. He said: We will hold a dialogue with everyone in accordance with our political viewpoint and will cooperate and hold a dialogue with the Jordanian Government to reach a joint line that is based on joint convictions. He added: In the future, we will concentrate on armed struggle as a basis for our action as long as our people are outside their homeland and do not enjoy their legitimate rights. However, armed struggle is not our objective, but only a means to achieve our objectives.

Regarding President Husni Mubarak's call for a Palestinian initiative, Brother Abu Iyad said: We have proposed to the world an independent Paelstinian state in accordance with the Rabat resolutions and our PNC resolutions in its various sessions. He said: This is the only thing that we believe can be implemented. However, anything less than that would mean that there will be no Palestinian state or self-determination.

Khalaf Affirms Rejection of 242

JN251717 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, has stressed the PLO's rejection of UN Security Council Resolution 242. He emphasized that the PLO supports an international conference on peace in the Middle East in which all parties concerned will participate, including the PLO.

In a press statement published in Tunis today, Brother Abu Iyad said: We as Palestinians must point out again that we reject Security Council Resolution 242, which is not in harmony with our aspirations. He said that any concession regarding the need to establish an independent Palestinian state would mean abandoning the Palestine question.

Brother Abu Iyad expressed the belief that an international conference is the more effective method to settle the Middle East crisis. He pointed out that during such a conference a settlement will be considered in accordance with the principle of peace in return for withdrawal from the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories and in return for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state that is linked to Jordan by distinguished relations within the framework of a confederation.

DFLP on Husayn's Proposals

JN242121 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2040 GMT 24 Nov 84

[From "Panorama" program]

[Text] In a press statement distributed to the Lebanese press this evening, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, assistant secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], stated that the DFLP rejects the proposal King Husayn put forth to the PNC session last Thursday evening which addresses the world with a Jordanian-Palestinian initiative based on UN Resolution 242. 'Abd Rabbuh called on all Palestinian nationalist forces and parties, even those who are participating in the Amman session, to join the DFLP in its rejection of this proposal and to remain committed to the letter and spirit of the Aden-Algiers agreement.

Democratic Alliance Rejects Husayn Initiative

JN260700 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] The Palestinian Democratic Alliance has categorically rejected the political maneuver King Husayn has launched, and has emphasized the danger it poses to the PLO's sole representation of the Palestinian people and to their legitimate rights. In a command meeting yesterday, the Democratic Alliance called on all Palestinian forces and parties both inside and outside the occupied territories to reject King Husayn's proposals, to confront them, to prevent their adoption, and to remain committed to previous PNC resolutions. The Democratic Alliance also denounced the 'Arafatist clique and its violation of the rules safeguarding Palestinian national unity.

Kuwaiti Paper on Husayn Proposals

GF241124 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0945 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Nov (WAKH) — Press reports in Kuwait said today that King Husayn of Jordan told PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and also Egypt and other Arab countries beforehand of the initiative he announced when opening the PNC's 17th session in Amman on 22 November.

The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS* said today, quoting well-informed sources, that the Palestinian leadership is seriously studying the idea of forming a unified Arab delegation which will include Egypt, Syria, Jordan, and representatives of the Palestinian people to enter negotiations on the basis of a unified peace formula so that the delegation will move under the Arab League's supervision. The delegation will probably be formed following a decision by an Arab summit or as a result of Arab contacts if an Arab summit is not held. The sources said if Syria rejects this idea, Egypt, Jordan, and the PLO will reach an understanding to form a unified delegation which will be ready to enter peaceful negotiations without necessarily moving under the Arab League's supervision but upon the approval of a few Arab countries.

It should be noted that before the PNC convocation, 'Arafat met in Tunis with an eminent Egyptian personality outside the government who has played many roles in strengthening Egyptian-Palestinian relations. During this meeting, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] affirmed his determination to hold the PNC session before 1985 because he believes that if a settlement for the Palestinian cause is not reached before 1985, everything will be lost. The sources said the Amman PNC session will probably have the PLO take a sound course which will differ from all the PLO's previous experiments.

Al-Fahum, Others Discuss Session

JN231639 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] Damascus — A meeting was held in Damascus today attended by PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum; PLO Executive Committee members 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Muhammad Khalifah, Talal Naji, Abu Mahir al-Yamani [Ahmad al-Yamani]; some resistance faction leader comrades; Brother Samih Abu Kuwayk, secretary of the Fatah Movement Provisional Command; 'Isam al-Qadi, secretary general of the Popular Liberation War Vanguards - Al-Sa'iqah Forces; Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the PFLP-GC; and Dr Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front. The brother and comrade PNC members Fadl Shururu, Sami Qandil, Khalid 'Abd al-Majid, Farhan Abu al-Hayja', Yahya Yakhlaf, May Sayigh, Muhammad Abu Mayzar, and Mahmud al-Labadi also attended the meeting.

The conferees discussed what has happened in the forged and divisionist council in Amman and the serious consequences of it, particularly those related to the political and organizational issues. The conferees also rejected King Husayn's serious and suspect initiative, which aims at liquidating the Palestine question, hatching plots against the pan-Arab cause, and aborting armed struggle. They considered the Amman council as illegal and illegitimate, and not representing the Palestinian national will. They agreed to resume meetings with all the Palestinian nationalist forces and personalities opposed to the course of capitulation to reach the greatest possible agreement, save the PLO, and restore its unity on a national and progressive basis that is hostile to imperialism, Zionism, and reactionary forces.

PNC Resumes Sessions, Deliberations 23 Nov

JN231011 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] The PNC held its second meeting in the Palace of Culture this morning. Speeches by the Moroccan, Tunisian, Indian, Algerian, and Yugoslav delegations were delivered. The PNC will resume its meetings at 1700 today. Deputy PNC Speaker Salim al-Za'nun said that four members arrived in Amman today to participate in the PNC session and that other members are expected to arrive later.

PNC Approves Agenda 23 Nov

JN232024 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] The PNC resumed its session at Al-Husayn Sports City this evening. It listened to speeches by the director of the UN office in Cairo, the AAPSO representative, and the Greek representative. During their speeches, the representatives stressed the need to support the PLO in order to enable it to continue its struggle against the Zionist enemy. They also stressed their support for the PLO in its capacity as the Palestinian people's legitimate authority.

Then the items on the agenda were read, and a number of members participated in a discussion of them. The PNC then voted and approved the nine topics on the agenda, after some amendments were made.

The PNC session was attended by the Jordanian delegation, led by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat, the delegations participating in the 17th PNC session, a crowd of observers, and Arab and foreign newsmen.

'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih New Speaker

JN231924 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1905 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih was elected PNC speaker with an overwhelming majority during an evening session of the PNC held at the Palace of Culture this evening, thus replacing Khalid al-Fahum, who was relieved of his post. Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih received a majority of 188 votes.

Al-Sa'ih Rejects Al-Fahum's Accusations

JN251703 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, who was elected PNC speaker to replace Khalid al-Fahum, has rejected Al-Fahum's accusations that the current PNC session in Amman is illegal and unconstitutional. Al-Sa'ih stressed that he completely rejects these accusations because the whole world has followed the convocation of the PNC and the procedures prior to its convocation, which came after Khalid al-Fahum refused to call for its convocation. The new PNC speaker added that the call for the PNC session was characterized by implementing and respecting the legitimacy and adhering to PLO regulations, particularly the PNC's basic statutes. He said that this is engough to refute these accusations.

Jibril's Expulsion Urged

JN231512 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] Amman, 23 Nov (PETRA) — The PFLP-GC Provisional Command has called on the PNC members to adopt a decision dismissing Ahmad Jibril and his group from the PNC and the PLO institutions, especially since the PLO is the Palestinian people's legitimate representative and the leader of their national struggle, and since those who give allegiance to anything other than Palestine and those who shelled the Palestinian camps should not continue as members of this sacred framework.

This memorandum was presented to the PNC by the PFLP-GC Provisional Command. It has also called on PNC members to confirm the participation of the PFLP-GC, represented by its provisional command, in the PLO institutions, as it is a Palestinian organization which has a basic role in the Arab-Israeli conflict. The provisional command stressed the need to confront all attempts against the PLO in its capacity as the Palestinian people's sole representative. It also rejected attempts to split the PLO and its legitimate institutions. It expressed a commitment to independent Palestinian decisionmaking, which constitutes a vital and major factor for continuing the revolution and the previous PNC resolutions, particularly the 16th PNC session, and called for considering them as the minimum level and proper platform for safeguarding the unity of Palestinian action.

13 Members Reelected

JN251208 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Amman — The PNC today continued its meetings at the Palace of Culture for the 4th consecutive day. Today's morning session began by reading the cables of support received by the PNC chairmanship from Jordan, other countries, and the occupied homeland. These cables called for bolstering Palestinian unity and for the return of the absent PNC members in order to perform their duties in the council as soon as their circumstances enable them to do so. These cables were sent by the Palestinian masses in the Lebanese [refugee] camps of Burj al-Barajinah, Jisr al-Basha, Al-Naba'ah, Nahr al-Barid, Al-Baddawi, Al-Burj al-Shamali, Al-Rashidiyah, and Al-Jalil. The PNC also received cables from prisoners in Israeli jails, stressing the need to adhere to legitimacy and to condemn all attempts to undermine it. The conferees then heard the speeches of the fraternal and friendly countries participating in the meetings.

The PNC then approved the membership of 13 new members representing the Palestinian communities in Latin and North America. The PNC approved their membership yesterday by voting for them collectively. However, since the rule for accepting members as laid down in Article 32 of the basic law stipulates that candidate members should be voted for individually, the council repeated the vote in today's session in accordance with the basic law. Thus, the number of the PNC members becomes 397.

Reportage on 24 November PNC Session

Executive Committee Members Dismissed

JN241710 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1655 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Amman, 24 Nov (INA) — It has been learned here that PLO Executive Committee members Talal Naji and 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar will be dismissed from the committee. A well-informed PNC source told INA that Dr Hanna Nasir, Dr Ahmad Sidqi al-Dajani, and Hamid Abu Sittah, will submit their resignations from the PLO Executive Committee during the current PNC session.

QNA Reports Expulsions, New Committee

GF251140 Doha QNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Amman, 25 Nov (QNA) — PNC sources attending the PNC meeting in Amman have said that it has become certain that Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the PFLP-General Command; Salah al-Maani, from Al-Sa'iqah; Tariq al-Khadra from the Palestinian Liberation Front; and Muhammad Adawi will be expelled from the PNC in view of their responsibility for the armed attacks launched against PLO positions in northern Lebanon in 1983.

PNC sources have informed the QNA correspondent in Amman that it is also expected that Talal Naji, the representative of the PFLP-General Command on the PLO Executive Committee, and Isam al-Qadi, the representative of Al-Sa'iqah on the PLO Executive Committee, will be expelled from the committee and will not be nominated, whereas two seats will be retained in the PLO Executive Committee for the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

It was learned that Khalid al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member, will replace 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar as official spokesman of the PLO. It was also learned that the new PLO Executive Committee will include Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the forces of the Palestinian revolution; Salah Khalaf, Fatah Central Committee member; Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department; and Mahmud Abbas, a member of the present PLO Executive Committee — all of whom are members of Fatah. Other candidates for membership of the new PLO Executive Committee include Brigadier General Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, representative of the PLO Executive Committee in Jordan; Salih al-Barghuti; 'Abdallah al-Hurani, and Muhammad Milhim — all of whom are PNC members.

The PNC membership committee last night approved a list of new members presented by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The PNC membership committee on 24 November approved the admission of 12 members representing Palestinians in America and the Carribean.

Jibril Comments on Session

JN232131 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Interview with PFLP-GC Secretary General Ahmad Jibril by unidentified Damascus television correspondent; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] You will undoubtedly have seen what took place yesterday. What are your first reactions to the convocation of 'Arafat's PNC in Amman?

[Ahmad Jibril] I believe that all of our people in the occupied land, Syria, and Jordan were watching their television screens and saw the blatant forgery for themselves. 'Arafat replaced more than 50 original members with new members before the quorum session began. According to the PLO's principal statute, he has no right to do so. I believe that PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum will hold a news conference in which he will deny this flagrant forgery which expresses total disregard. We all know his ['Arafat] insistence on forgery. We can summarize this forgery through what King Husayn said in his speech during this session.

Here, I must say that we thank King Husayn because he was very clear and frankly explained this. King Husayn made important points. Our people are undoubtedly enlightened, and have completely realized these points. He clearly demanded that the PNC accept his new initiative, which is based on Security Council Resolution 242. We in the Palestinian revolution rejected this resolution back in 1967, because it denies the Palestinian people's right to return and their right to self-determination. It regards the Palestinian territories which were occupied by the enemy only as part of Egypt and Jordan. King Husayn was frank when he said any new initiative must be based on Resolution 242. He also wanted to tell us that such an initiative must also be based on the United Kingdom plan, which he proposed in 1972 after the September [1970] massacres. King Husayn was also frank when he said: This initiative is your only option. If you wish for us to march together — King Husayn and 'Arafat — then you must approve this initiative so that we can propose it to the world and march behind it. Otherwise — there was an implied threat here — you march alone. However, he corrected himself, and said: If you decide otherwise, we will bless your moves, but you will be responsible for the loss of the land.

King Husayn was very frank. He insulted our Palestinian people, and insulted all those who attended the PNC when he held them responsible for the September 1970 massacres. He said: You were deluded that Palestine and liberation were at hand, and you clashed with us and we had to defend ourselves. Regrettably, King Husayn used a form of forgery and deception, especially with regard to the 1967 and 1973 wars but even with regard to the Israeli invasion [of Lebanon]. He even said: We were willing to support you in the 1982 invasion, but the geographical factor precluded this. To whom is he saying this? Is he saying it to our naive people? Is Jerusalem not within his sight? Was the Israeli Army not preoccupied in the Suez Canal and the Golan during the October war, and were its borders not 700 km long and was Jerusalem not open to him? Why did he not make a single move? Of course, he was not consulted on this war. Therefore, he had no role to play in it. King Husayn falsified history when he claimed that the Hashemite family had throughout its life supported the Palestinian issue, and that King Husayn was the martyr of this family and of Palestine. King Husayn falsifies facts.

Yes, you will now find him very concered with the PLO. I wonder about these few days in the seminar: If he is concerned, I challenge him to move the PLO offices from Tunis to Amman, and to make it the PLO headquarters. I ask him to return all of the Palestinian fighters 'Arafat dispersed in Algeria, Tunisia, Sudan, the YAR, the PDRY, and Iraq to bring them to Jordan, and to station them on the Jordan River and continue the battle of honor. Then we will salute him and tell him that we were mistaken.

However, King Husayn was frank in his speech, when he said: Your only option is negotiation. Wars and fighting are not to be considered because of the futility of fighting. Therefore, your only option is negotiations, and the initiative which he proposed. Now, just as we said a few days ago, 'Arafat has placed all of his cards in King Husayn's hands. 'Arafat has no other option but to agree to this initiative, which is a historic relinquishment of our people's right to return, their right to self-determination, and their right to establish the independent Palestinian state.

13 New Members Accepted

JN241744 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Amman, 24 Nov (PETRA) — The PNC has accepted 13 new PNC members representing the Palestinian communities in Latin America and North America. They are as follows: Francis Shawmali, Rita Hazbun, Hasan al-'Amlah, Hasan al-Sa'd, Antoine Qahwaji, Ahmad al-Sabbagh, Tawfiq Qanawati, Muhammad Salim, 'Ali Matar, Farid Suwwan, Samir Tawtah, Jawad George, and 'Izzat 'Amr. It has been learned that during its session last night, the PNC accepted two new PNC members. They are Muhammad Milhim and Fahd al-Qawasimi.

PNC To Transfer Headquarters to Amman

JN250852 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 25 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — *AL-DUSTUR* — PLO official spokesman Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman has said that the PNC is expected to decide to transfer PNC headquarters from Damascus to Amman.

Iraqi Delegate Addresses Session 24 Nov

JN241056 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0958 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Amman, 24 Nov (INA) — The 17th PNC session resumed deliberations in Amman this morning. PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat introduced Na'im Haddad, Ba'th Party National Command member, to the meeting.

In his introductory remarks, 'Arafat said: When we found some paths closed in our face, I went to Baghdad and met with my brother, the revolutionary Saddam Husayn. 'Arafat said that he informed Saddam Husayn that there were problems in holding the PNC. 'Arafat added that President Saddam informed him that "Iraq, its territory, and Baghdad are open to you whenever you please because Iraq is an integral part of Palestine and Palestine is an integral part of Iraq."

In his speech Na'im Haddad said that the PNC's 17th session is a new, effective beginning in the life and march of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO. He said the success of the PNC means breaking a main link in the conspiratorial plot against the Palestinian revolution — a plot which concentrates on striking at Palestinian legitimacy, paralyzing the active Palestinian organizations and national decisionmaking, and splitting the PLO. Haddad reviewed the aggressions and plots by imperialist and Zionist circles, in cooperation with the Syrian regime, against the Arab nation, particularly Iraq and the Palestinian revolution. He said it is not surprising that these aggressions and plots should be launched at the same time because the plotters are allies in evil and partners in plots against Arabism, the causes of Arab struggle, and the Arab nation's aims.

Haddad reiterated Iraq's firm, principled stand and solidarity with the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the bastion that protects the Palestinian cause against plots, and the source of sacrifices for Palestine and the Arab nation. He affirmed that Iraq's strength is strength for the Palestinians and the Arabs; its triumph is their triumph.

Na'im Haddad pointed out the Syrian regime's conspiratorial role and attempts to obstruct the PNC meetings. He said: This role also extended to Iraq, which is defending the eastern flank of the Arab homeland against the Iranian regime's aggression. The Syrian regime helps the Iranian regime continue its aggression. He added: The Syrian regime's treasonous and scandalous stand is no coincidence; it falls within the framework of a conspiratorial and terrorist role by the Syrian regime and its partners against Iraq and the Arab nation.

Na'im Haddad noted that one of the main objectives of the Iranian aggression against Iraq is to engage it in fighting and to paralyze its effective and distinguished pan-Arab role in defense of the Arab nation's decisive issues, including the Palestinian cause. Haddad reviewed Iraq's peaceful initiatives, positive stands, and cooperation with all parties to end the Iraqi-Iranian war through peaceful means. At the same time, the Iranian regime rejects all these peaceful initiatives and calls and insists on continuing and expanding its aggression, threatening to occupy Iraq and control the region in order to achieve its expansionist ambitions. Haddad asserted that any new Iranian offensive against Iraq along the eastern flank of the Arab homeland will be crushed.

The party National Command member called on the Palestinians to achieve more cohesion and unity within the framework of the PLO, to escalate the Palestinian struggle, and to remove the state of stalemate and paralysis imposed on the PLO by conspiratorial regimes implementing the Zionist scheme.

Concluding his speech, Haddad urged honest Arab forces to support and reinforce the Palestinian struggle and the PLO in order to enable the PLO continue the long march and achieve the Palestinian people's national objectives and inalienable rights.

GULF AFFAIRS

Bahraini Paper on GCC-EEC Mediation in Gulf War

GF231256 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 23 Nov 84 pp 1, 10

[Text] In a statement to *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ*, Gulf sources have denied that the GCC ministerial council, which ended its meetings in Kuwait on 21 November, had discussed a GCC-EEC joint initiative to end the Iraqi-Iranian war and asserted that no such initiative exists.

In statements to the press on 22 November, Arab diplomatic sources had said that the GCC ountries had reached an understanding with the EEC on attempting a joint mediation between Iraq and Iran with the aim of achieving peace in stages between the two countries. These sources said "the new initiative" will be announced in January 1985, but that depends on the response of the two belligerents. The sources said that the GCC and EEC countries will begin their mediation as soon as its acceptance is announced both in Tehran and Baghdad, and that the mediation will culminate with the signing of a comprehensive peace agreement in December 1985.

Commenting on these reports Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah said the matter has been referred to the GCC Supreme Council scheduled to meet in Kuwait on 27 November.

Ibrahim al-Subhi, GCC assistant secretary general for political affairs, said the initiative envisages sending a delegation on condition that there will be developments and signs that encourage the continuation of the mediation. Al-Subhi added: Contacts are taking place to see if there are any new developments that encourage us to resume the initiative. We are awaiting the results of these contacts to know the climate in which the GCC initiative can be made — either by contacting the two parties concerned or by contacting the parties that previously played a mediation role. The results of all these contacts will be discussed at the GCC summit.

Al-Subhi said that the GCC countries are in touch with any party — be it Arab or non-Arab — that has an influence on the course of events in the area. He noted: We are seeking an end to this war on all levels. If there is any party that can influence the war we will get in touch with it. We hope that ultimately all our contacts will bring about an end to the war.

GCC Official on Plan To End Iran-Iraq War

GF241630 Manama WAKH in English 1550 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Nov, 24 (GNA) — A senior Gulf official said that a detailed report on the Iraqi-Iranian war as well as on all Arab, Islamic and international initiatives made to end this war would be submitted to the forthcoming GCC summit due to begin in Kuwait very soon. The official said that the report would enable the GCC leaders to formulate a new Gulf initiative based on the results of the previous ones. The Abu Dhabi based paper *AL-WAHDAH* quoted a well-informed Gulf diplomatic source as saying that the next summit would entrust to two heads of its member-states the task of beginning joint moves between Baghdad and Tehran with new proposals for a peaceful solution to the war.

Any Gulf initiative would be based on a cease-fire period for a few months during which preparatory contacts would be established between the two countries to start negotiations between them in order to find a peaceful solution to the war based on the recognition of national sovereignty, international border rights and mutual respect while the second step would relate to the establishment of a fund financed by the GCC members and other countries. The fund will provide aid to the two warring countries for reparation of war losses and reconstruction of their economies.

The official reported that contacts took place btween certain GCC states and both Iraq and Iran to ascertain their views before the convocation of the summit to gauge the possibility of the success of any fresh move and to draft the new principles to settle the conflict in a manner acceptable to both parties.

Bisharah on Gulf War, Military Industry

GF251436 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1300 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Muscat, 25 Nov (WAKH) — GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah has affirmed that the GCC states will exert all possible efforts to put a peaceful end to the Iraqi-Iranian war. He described this war as one of the major factors influencing the security and stability of the region.

In a statement published by the Omani newspaper *'UMAN* today, Bisharah said the Iraqi-Iranian war captures the concern of the GCC because it exhausts the human and financial resources of two neighboring Muslim countries and because it has an impact on the region's states. He pointed out that the GCC has handled this war and its nature with diplomatic wisdom and has succeeded in preventing it from expanding to the GCC countries. He said this success is an effective contribution to world peace and security. Bisharah urged world countries to contribute seriously and persistently so as to end this war.

He referred to the intense contacts made by GCC members with the International Security Council and the United Nations to end the Iraqi-Iranian war, and expressed the hope that these contacts will result in a serious and effective contribution toward the ending of the war. Bisharah also said that the Peninsula Shield maneuvers shows the determination of GCC members to collectively confront the challenges and to shoulder responsibility for maintaining the region's stability and independence.

Bisharah affirmed that the GCC states have always been striving to bring Arab views closer, to reduce Arab struggles, and to achieve Arab detente. He said this effort emerges from the belief of the GCC states in the necessity of Arab rapprochement, the necessity of avoiding differences, and in the importance of detente for the region's stability.

Regarding the establishment of a Gulf military industry, he said: There is an intention to establish local military industry.

We are now in the stage of establishing the basic phases in all fields. The future is still open for us to establish Gulf heavy industries. He then affirmed that the bilateral agreements in the security fields among the GCC states do not conflict with the draft unified agreement which is aimed at legalizing this kind of cooperation on basis of a collective framework that includes all the GCC members. Bisharah said that the GCC has a clear-cut and defined policy that is being pursued by the member states. He said their majesties and their highnesses insisted on the principle of self-reliance to maintain independence and to protect the security and freedom of the member states.

He pointed out that the question of ownership is one of the major issues proposed to the Kuwait summit which will greatly contribute to the elimination of realistic and psychological barriers among the region's sons. He said the region's leaders will be presented with one paper on the standardization of services rates, in addition to the political situation, defensive cooperation, and economic ties.

Regarding the Gulf-European dialogue, he said that the GCC General Secretariate is holding a dialogue with the EEC to facilitate GCC exports to EEC countries and also technical cooperation.

'Gulf Sources' Say Iran May Discuss Peace Plan

GF251542 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 24 Nov 84 p 1

[Sattar Jabbar report]

[Text] Gulf sources have revealed to *AL-WATAN* that during the visit of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam to Tehran last week, Iran agreed initially to discuss the Gulf [peace] plan which is expected to be proposed at the GCC summit in Kuwait next Tuesday.

These sources revealed that during his visit to Algeria about 2 weeks ago, Khaddam discussed with Algerian officials the possibility of joint Algerian-Syrian action to be added to the GCC efforts to put an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war.

These sources also revealed to *AL-WATAN* that the second man in Algeria, Mohamed Massaadia, will visit Iran during the coming days. In the event the Gulf plan is finalized, an Arab delegation headed by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and including Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Mohamed Cherif Massaadia will leave for Iran to present the plan to the Iranian officials.

The sources said that Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' informed Saudi officials during his visit to Riyadh last week that Syria was given the green light by the Iranians on the Syrian-Gulf-Algerian common action. He also presented to Saudi officials some views and proposals made by Iran.

Among these proposals is that Iraq should not announce through its media that it has achieved victory and that it should accept the return of a number of Iraqis of Iranian origin who were asked to leave Iraq at the beginning of the war with Iran.

GCC States 'Agree in Principle' on Military Command

GF230854 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0705 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Nov (WAKH) — The Kuwaiti paper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM*, citing reliable sources, today reports that the GCC ministerial council has prepared a comprehensive file on the Gulf countries' Arab and international relations and economic affairs. The file deals with oil and envisages full cooperation and agreement on oil prices and production. The sources say that the ministers have agreed in principle to set up a unified military command on the basis of the Abha conference that was held in Saudi Arabia, and that this matter will be referred to the GCC summit which will be held on 27 November. The sources also say that the GCC ministerial council made a comprehensive appraisal of relations between the Gulf countries and Europe and recommended that the European countries should play a more positive role on the Palestinian question. It was also suggested that following the U.S. presidential elections the United States should [words indistinct] the Palestinian question.

KUWAIT

Council of Ministers Wishes PNC Success

LD251227 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1051 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Kuwait today expressed its wishes for the success and victory of the Palestine National Council and for its meeting to mark a beginning to speak with one voice and to unify all viewpoints and to remove causes of disputes.

The Minister of State for the Affairs of the Council of Ministers 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn stated that the Kuwaiti Council of Ministers in its weekly meeting today reviewed Arab political conditions, especially those connected with the Palestinian question during the meetings of the PNC meeting in Amman.

The Council of Ministers wished the National Council success and victory in all its steps and for its meeting to be a beginning to speak with one voice, unify the viewpoint and remove the causes for disputes in order that the organization might carry out its fundamental role in directing the revolution along its main objectives.

'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn expressed the congratulations of the Council of Ministers to the new president of the PNC Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid as-Sa'ih on his election and wished him and the council success and victory.

QATAR

Diplomatic Relations Established With Singapore

GF241120 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Out of the desire to strengthen relations of friendship and cooperation between Qatar and the Republic of Singapore, the two states have decided to establish diplomatic representation between them on an ambassadorial level.

Amir Opens Consultative Council Session

GF240744 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0710 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Doha, 24 Nov (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of Qatar, this morning opened the 13th ordinary session of the Qatari Consultative Council. His highness delivered a speech which dealt with the great achievements Qatar achieved last year. He also reviewed his country's stand on the important current Arab and international issues.

Addresses Council

GF240946 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 0550 GMT 24 Nov 84

["Text" of speech by Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani at the opening of the 13th ordinary session of the Qatari Consultative Council — live]

[Excerpts] Respectable brother citizens, members of the Consultative Council. In the name of the Almighty God, I open this 13th ordinary session of the Consultative Council, turning my face to God to grant us success in our unified efforts to continue our march to achieve good for our people through their support in order to achieve all that we aspire for — continued progress and prosperity for our dear country. I am pleased on this occasion to express my sincerest appreciation for your efforts in rendering fruitful assistance to the government in fulfilling its tasks through your sincere, conscious, and responsible advice.

Respected brothers, you all know that our state has a clearly defined policy which rests on main bases which we are pleased to recall for you. What makes us more pleased with them is their fruitful implementation on the domestic and foreign levels. These bases are:

1. Fulfilling the overall development our country is aspiring toward is the responsibility of both the people and the government. Our success in carrying it out as required is determined by sincere cooperation between the two. We thank God because our society which constitutes one coherent family embodies this cooperation and bears this responsibility in a spirit of compassion and brotherhood in a way which has helped in achieving the security and stability our country is enjoying.

2. The overall development we are aspiring toward is based on two main principles: A. The Qatari citizen is the maker of this development and he is at the same time its goal. Thus, he constitutes our main and primary wealth and, consequently efforts should continue with all means to elevate his scientific, moral, and social standard. B. Our economic wealth, which is considered the most solid foundation of progress and development, requires us to devote the most attention to it.

It is a source of joy that the efforts we are making and the efforts our other sister Gulf Arab states are making to achieve our common goal of raising our standard in all fields have in fact become more effective and successful since these efforts were unified within the framework of the GCC and its organs and organizations to achieve this goal. Undoubtedly what the GCC has achieved, through the constructive and positive cooperation among its nations, is the motive behind international unanimity on the success of these nations in consolidating its foundations in serving its noble goals on the national, regional, and international levels. I am sure that the fifth GCC summit in fraternal Kuwait will give a new important push to our continued march to realize these goals.

Respected brothers, our Arab and Islamic nation is passing through a very critical stage. Very grave events are taking place. The Iran-Iraq war, which has entered its 5th year, has cost the two Muslim sister states heavy losses and has cost us huge human and economic resources which we dearly need to face the serious challenges. The war has posed a threat to the security and stability of our region; indeed, to international peace and security. We, in the GCC countries, still hope that the spirit of the brotherhood of Islam will rule so that amity will replace hostilities and the dispute between the two Muslim sister countries, and so that our region will enjoy the understanding and solidarity we are looking for among our countries which will ensure the prevalence of its stability and security away from threats posed by foreign intervention and international conflicts. For this purpose, we will continue our persistent efforts with all our means.

Respected brothers, let our march be lit by our noble Arab principles of which we are proud. Let it be fraught with the teachings of our lofty Islamic faith of which we are proud — principles and teachings which advocate right, justice, love, cooperation, and tolerance among all peoples and which are the loftiest beacon to light our way for fruitful work and righteous striving to serve our homeland, nation, and all humanity. God says: "And for those who strive in our path, we will surely guide them in our ways. And verily God is with those who do good." [Koranic verse] Peace, God's mercy and benedictions be upon you.

Council Chairman Reelected

GF241810 Manama WAKH in English 1650 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Doha, Nov 24, (GNA) — The Qatari advisory council has unanimously re-elected 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalid al-Ghanim as head of the council during a session held this morning. The council also unanimously re-elected 'Ali ibn Khalifah as his deputy. 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abdallah Turki and Yusuf Qasim al-Rawish were elected as observers to the council.

SAUDI ARABIA

UK Air Staff Chief Received by Defense Minister

LD241548 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Riyadh — His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, defense and aviation minister and inspector general, this afternoon received Sir Keith Williamson, air chief marshal and chief of the air staff of the Royal Air Force, and the accompanying delegation. Talks during this meeting reflected aspects of military cooperation between the Kingdom and Britain. The meeting was attended by Air Force Commander Staff Major General 'Abdallah al-Hamdan, and the British Ambassador to the Kingdom Sir Patrick Wright. In addition His Royal Highness 'Abd al-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy minister of defense and aviation, later on met with Sir Keith and discussed a number of topics of mutual interest. Sir Keith arrived in Riyadh yesterday on a visit to the Kingdom.

Cooperation Memorandum Signed With Swiss

LD251428 Riyadh SPA in English 1308 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Riyadh, Nov 25, SPA — HM King Fahd received here today the visiting Swiss Economic Affairs Minister Kurt Furgler. The royal audience was attended by Saudi Industry and Electric Power Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Zamil signed a memorandum on the meeting of the Joint Saudi-Swiss Commission on Economic and Technical Cooperation, which concluded its meeting here today. Furgler also conferred with Commerce Dr Sulayman al-Sulayyim on ways of boosting trade cooperation between the two countries.

King Fahd Sends Message of Support to Arafat

GF241838 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has affirmed Saudi Arabia's support for the convening of the PNC session in Amman. His majesty also reaffirmed Saudi Arabia's support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This support was expressed in a message from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The message was conveyed by Ibrahim al-Sultan, the Saudi ambassador in Amman, when he met with Yasir 'Arafat today. The message of King Fahd was received with stormy applause when it was read by the PNC chairman during the PNC's evening session today.

Daily on Renewed Support for Palestinian Cause

GF241844 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 24 Nov 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The Kingdom has renewed its moral and material commitment to the Palestinian cause. This commitment is a fateful one which was first made by the founder of the Kingdom, His Majesty King 'Abd al-'Aziz, may God rest his soul. It was the core of his domestic and foreign policies to support the Palestinian cause, defend the rights of the Palestinians and their struggle to liberate their occupied territories, and regain their legitimate rights. On this topic, the newspaper *AL-JAZIRAH* said today:
The Kingdom's efforts, under His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, for the Palestinian cause lead all other efforts because they spring from an unshakeable faith that this cause is just and that the Palestinians struggle for their legitimate rights. They also spring from the solid bond with the Palestinian people in their fate which is that of the Arab nation.

AL-JAZIRAH continued: The Kingdom's political stands on all regional and international parties concerned with the Palestinian cause are clearly determined by these parties' support or lack of support for the Palestinian cause and rights. Therefore, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has always staunchly supported the unity of the Palestinian ranks and struggle.

UAE

Daily Casts Doubt on Soviet Stand Toward PLO

GF240736 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0620 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Dubayy, 24 Nov (WAM) — *AL-BAYAN* today cast doubt on the seriousness of the Soviet stand toward the PLO and the Arab cause in general. The newspaper noted that the absence of the Soviets from the PNC session currently bring held in Amman was surprising to all, regardless of the previously announced Soviet stand in support of the Arab causes, diplomatically and materially, particularly the Palestinian issue.

AL-BAYAN emphasized that the Soviet absence "will undoubtedly be controversial for those who want to show it as one aspect of this stand." "The fact that no Soviet delegation has attended the PNC meeting will probably be construed as a stand of the leadership itself. This will not serve the main goal, which is PLO unity, and does not harmonize with the previously declared Soviet stand," the paper said.

AL-BAYAN noted that some countries which do not recognize the PLO, such as Britain, have sent delegations to attend the PNC meeting. The Soviet absence will encourage a split in the Palestinian ranks, which will threaten the Palestinian cause and its legitimate role and will also deepen the Palestinian split, the paper said.

PDRY

Planning Minister Receives Kuwait, USSR Officials

GF250500 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Planning Minister Dr Faraj ibn Ghanim discussed with Ahmad al-Saqqaf, candidate member of the General Committee of the South and Arabian Gulf Department at the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry, the aid provided to our country by the General Committee of the South and the Arabian Gulf Department for 1984 and the following years. During the meeting this morning, the brother minister highly evaluated the aid provided by Kuwait to implement some development projects in our country. On his part, Brother al-Saqqaf praised the development which the PDRY is witnessing in various fields.

The planning minister also met in his office today with Comrade (Binar Kariov), the economic adviser at the Soviet Embassy in Aden. During the meeting, he discussed with him issues of joint cooperation in the Yemeni-Soviet projects and the activities of the sub-committees stemming from the Standing Committee for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation between our country and the Soviet Union.

Hungarian Delegation Concludes Visit

GF241045 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Comrade Janos Kamara, member of the MSZMP Central Committee and state secretary at the Interior Ministry, and the delegation accompanying him, left Aden this evening concluding a visit to our country which lasted for a few days. During this visit, the Hungarian delegation held talks with officials at the Ministry of Interior. The Hungarian delegation signed an agreement during the visit for cooperation between our Interior Ministry and the Hungarian Interior Ministry. The agreement aims at expanding cooperation between the two ministries, exchanging expertise, and training cadres.

YAR

Information Minister Receives PRC Official

GF241910 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Minister of Information and Culture Brother Hasan Ahmad al-Lawzi received today PRC Vice Minister of Culture Zhou Weizhi who is currently visiting the YAR. They later headed their respective sides in Cultural talks.

At the beginning of the talks the two sides exchanged speeches in which they hailed the depth and development of relations between the two countries. The speeches expressed the endeavor of the Yemeni and PRC sides to develop cultural relations in service of common interests and stressed the necessity of utilizing the experiences of the two countries and their artistic and cultural heritage as this field represents a bridge that links the peoples and as culture represents a ring of contacts between nations and civilizations and develops common relations.

The PRC vice minister of culture expressed his admiration at the great progress achieved by the Yemeni people and the Yemeni revolution in the various political, economic, and cultural fields. During the talks they discussed the general framework of the executive program of the cultural agreement between the two countries during the next 2 years. The talks were attended on the Yemeni side by Brother Mutahhar Taqi, under secretary of the Information Ministry in charge of cultural affairs; a number of officials at the ministry; and the PRC charge d'affairs in Sanaa.

Cabinet Reshuffled, New Foreign Minister Named

GF242016 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Nov 84

["Text" of Presidential Decree No 63/1984 on cabinet reshuffle issued on 24 November 1984]

[Excerpt] The president has decreed the following:

Article: The following brothers will be appointed to the posts that follow each of their names:

Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister and foreign minister;
Ahmad Salih al-Ruayni, minister of state for cabinet affairs [current minister of social affairs and labor];
Dr Muhammad Ahmad al-Asbahi, minister of social affairs and labor [current foreign minister];
Dr Husayn 'Adallah al-Amri, minister of education; and
Fuad Qaid Muhammad, minister of supply and trade.

Article 2: The decree comes into force on the date of its issuance and will be published in the official gazette.

Issued at the presidential palace in Sanaa on 1 Rabi Awwal 1405 Hegira, corresponding to 24 November 1984.

[Signed] Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president and commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General Peoples Congress; 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister.

Mubarak Contacts Husayn on PNC Report Clause

NC252317 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — In its Monday edition, the newspaper *AL-AHRAM* says that urgent contacts took place today between President Husni Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan, between King Husayn and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, and between 'Arafat and the Egyptian delegation attending the PNC meetings to remove the confusion [lubs] raised by certain clauses in the PLO Executive Committee's political report by PLO Political Department Chairman Faruq Qaddumi about relations between the PLO and Egypt. The political report referred to the PLO's relations with the "National Egyptian Movement." This expression reflects the previously used sense that only the opposition parties were, in the PLO's opinion, the national movement.

AL-AHRAM says that this prompted President Mubarak to contact King Husayn so that he could ask Yasir 'Arafat about the meaning of this clause. The paper says that Yasir 'Arafat immediately declared that the PLO does not differentitate between the sons of the Egyptian people, that all the Egyptian people are patriots who believe in Egypt's Arabism and support the Palestinian cause, and that he views with great appreciation the basic role the Egyptian authorities played in backing the PLO.

AL-AHRAM says that 'Arafat asked King Husayn to convey this emphasis to President Mubarak. 'Arafat then invited the Egyptian delegation members to a meeting in his private suite. The meeting was attended [on the Egyptian side] by Dr Muhammad Hasan al-Zayyat, Mansur Hasan, Mahmud Dabbur, and Egyptian Ambassador in Amman Ihab Wahbah. On the Palestinian side the meeting was attended by Faruq Qaddumi, Chairman of the PLO Political Department and Fatah Central Committee member; Sa'id Kamal, PNC member; Muhammad Subayh, PNC secretary; and Nabil Sha't, PNC member and Yasir 'Arafat's adviser on international affairs.

AL-AHRAM points out that at the beginning of the meeting, during which a spirit of joint understanding prevailed, Yasir 'Arafat reasserted his appreciation for President Mubarak's stands in support of the PLO in all international and political forums. 'Arafat emphasized that the Egyptian delegation that came to attend the PNC meetings fully represents official and popular Egypt, and that it was the largest of all the delegations that attended the PNC meetings, which indicates Egypt's dignified status among the Palestinian people. He said that the first to speak was Brother Mahmud Dabbur in his capacity as representative of the ruling National Democratic Party, the majority party in Egypt.

AL-AHRAM says that PLO Political Department Chairman Faruq Qaddumi, who submitted the report to the PNC, spoke. He said: It absolutely did not cross my mind, or the minds of my brother members of the Palestinian leadership, to differentiate or distinguish between the national movement and forces in Egypt. What I submitted in the report is a review of the realistic development of the Palestinian march since the PNC's 16th session, held in Algiers.

Qaddumi added: We are concerned about Egypt and its standing and recognize Egypt's strategic importance to us, to the Palestinian cause, and to the Arab cause.

He further said: I personally held more than one public meeting with my brother, 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, the Egyptian foreign minister.

AL-AHRAM says that Dr Muhammad Hasan al-Zayyat spoke next. He said: We in Egypt do not accept any segregation and that all that we want is to make things clear. We do not want an Egyptian or Arab reader to believe that in your use of the term the "Egyptian National Movement" you are differentiating between two groups in Egypt, which do not exist. As President Mubarak said, there are 45 million Egyptians and all are patriots and believe in Egypt's strategy and support for the Palestinian cause.

Mansur Hasan said: I have another simple remark on the report submitted by Brother Faruq Qaddumi. I make this remark from a position of total faith in the Palestinian cause and as a member of the National Democratic Party. Brother Faruq Qaddumi says in his report, "We are required to act to adopt a unified Arab stand to help Egypt break its restrictions and return to the Arab fold with all its power and resources." I personally say to him that Egypt will help you and the PLO break the restrictions with which Syria and Libya have fettered the PLO.

He added: When an invitation was extended to me to participate in your PNC meeting, I personally asked permission from President Husni Mubarak, who immediately agreed.

AL-AHRAM says that 'Arafat concluded the meeting by saying: I need not remind you of Egypt's importance and role. I need not praise Brother President Husni Mubarak's personal role. I have said this officially and in newspapers more than once. Also, I personally visited Egypt and became a target for suspicions by certain sides. 'Arafat affirmed that he is confident that eventually the PNC, which is the highest popular authority of the Palestinian people, will make the appropriate decision regarding the visit he made to Cairo, a visit that he considered, and still consdiders, to be in the interest of the Palestinian cause, Egypt, the whole Arab nation, and the Arab struggle.

Reportage on Other Mubarak, King Husayn Contacts

Husayn To Visit Cairo

NC250727 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0645 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — The newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* reports today that King Husayn of Jordan will pay an official visit to Cairo within the next few days following President Husni Mubarak's visit to Amman last month.

In a dispatch from Amman, the paper says that former Information Minister Mansur Hasan will return to Cairo from Amman today with a message from King Husayn to President Mubarak in reply to the message that the former Egyptian minister had forwarded to the Jordanian monarch last Wednesday.

The paper adds that a telephone call took place yesterday between President Mubarak and the Jordanian monarch during which the two leaders discussed the PNC meetings in Amman.

Mubarak Receives Husayn Message

NC251524 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1513 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — Former Information Minister Mansur Hasan returned to Cairo from Amman today after a 5-day visit to Jordan during which he delivered a written message from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to Jordan's King Husayn. Upon his arrival, Mansur Hasan said he brought with him a written reply from King Husayn to President Husni Mubarak.

Mubarak, Husayn Telephone Conversation

NC252013 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — In a telephone call between President Husni Mubarak and His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan, the two leaders exchanged views on the most important issues of the region. The call took place yesterday evening, Saturday.

Mubarak Message Delivered to African Journalists

NC231236 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1105 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 23 Nov (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has emphasized that Egypt will continue to give every means of support and aid to the people of Namibia and to their struggle to attain their legitimate aspirations of sovereignty and independence. President Mubarak asked the international community to compel the racist Government of South Africa to grant the people of Namibia the right to form a legitimate government, and to respond to UN resolutions that advocate these rights.

In his address to African journalists today, President Mubarak said that the African Continent is still suffering from serious problems, foremost being the crisis resulting from food and water shortages. He reminded the journalists that liberation from hunger means liberation from subservience and the attainment of self-reliances. This, the president added, will safeguard man's dignity and free will.

The following is the text of the address that was read on behalf of the president by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif during the celebration held at the Arab League premises in Cairo this morning on the occasion of African Journalist day:

Mr Chairman, today, 10 years ago, the African Journalists Association was established. This period might appear short in terms of countries and peoples, but in terms of your struggling association, it is a new, significant accomplishment.

Mr Chairman, on African Journalist Day last year, we all hoped that African journalists would participate in building bridges of understanding between the African Continent and its peoples, and would perform their duties in promoting confidence and faith in a bright future. Mankind must always aspired to attain progress and development so that it can contribute more.

All of mankind has this goal, but today we must talk about farsightedness and inexhaustible ambitions that look like dreams, but with hard relentless work, these dreams can become reality.

Man's vision in the past was confined to his village. His efforts were restricted to providing food, water, and clothes for himself and his family. Man today, however, is something different. He has learned many secrets that no one thought he could learn.

There is no doubt that humanity is indebted to writers, journalists, artists, and those engaged in the science of communication, including teachers, scientists, and professors who are specialized in working for development. They were outstanding even among themselves when they placed their science and talent in the service of man. Mankind was able to arrive at unlimited discoveries and was able to exploit science to serve the communications systems of each generation, each according to its perception and according to the nature, values, traditions, and resources of each place.

Brothers, our glorious African Continent continues to suffer from severe problems the most important of which is finding a sufficient supply of food and water so that man will not die of hunger or thirst. Liberation from hunger means liberation from subservience and from dependence on others to ensure man's dignity and the independence of his will.

Thus comes your responsibility, African brothers, journalists, writers, and bearers of the torches of knowledge to public opinion and those struggling for liberation and development to meet the needs of societies and to ensure protection and security for them.

I am certain that what you are doing with your pens in your various languages is embedded in your readers' consciences and is enriching their vision of a better future. Action for the sake of progress is your mission and struggle for the sake of man is your goal. Be patient, persevere, work, and use your talents to consolidate values in the human conscience, to tip the balance in favor of good, and to raise the level of awareness.

It is my belief that you are fully capable of doing so because your intentions are sincere, your will is strong, and because you sense the magnitude of the challenge and the seriousness of your repsponsibility. I am certain that your work today will remain a light to coming generations which will be proud of the services you have rendered to your societies and will remember that you have opened up the door to free thinking and the single commitment to the belief in the unity of goals and destiny for all the African peoples.

The hopes of Africans have remained linked to their hopes in African unity throughout the long years of struggle for freedom. African strugglers all over our great continent have struggled while hoisting the slogan of freedom and unity until they crowned this continuous struggle more than 20 years ago when our struggling peoples affirmed the spirit of their solidarity and laid down the bases of their unity with the establishment of the OAU.

The African media is always seeking to strengthen this organization and you, the African journalists, shoulder the fundamental responsibility of enabling it to perform its message and achieve the objective for which it has been set up and the target toward which it is marching.

Mr Chairman, African journalists are following up that glorious struggle waged by our African people in the south of the continent — in a decisive confrontation that is nearing its victorious end — against racist policies and barbaric practices.

From here I address my greetings to our African people in Namibia who are still suffering under the yoke of persecution, terrorism, and racist practices. I demand that the international community compel the racist Government of South Africa to grant the people of Namibia their legitimate rights and to respond to the UN resolutions which advocated these rights, the last of which was the resolution that the UN general assembly passed a few days ago. Egypt, for its part, will continue to give complete support and aid to the people of Namibia and to their just struggle to achieve their legitimate aspirations for sovereignty and independence.

The African journalists are following with enthusiasm what is taking place in adjacent countries. They sympathize with the Palestinian people's cause and support their right to self-determination. The African journalist is an example of the African who struggles to achieve his aspirations and hopes.

Mr Chairman, permit me to address through you greetings to every African journalist. Let all the African journalists be confident that Egypt opens its doors and hearts to them to reach understanding, cooperation, and to chart a course to attain the great hopes of everyone.

May God guide your steps on the rightuous road. May God grant you his mercy and blessings.

Ghali on PNC, Relations With Israel, OAU

PM241506 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 22 Nov 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Butrus Ghali tells *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*: No Change in Our Attitude Toward Israel"]

[Text] *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* office, Cairo — Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has underscored the importance of the current PNC session which began in Amman today. He voiced support for the Palestinian struggle under Yasir 'Arafat's leadership. In an interview with *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* Ghali expressed hope that the next step would be an agreement between King Husayn and 'Arafat. He added: "If they take that step, we will be able, as a next step, to move with the United States to end the deadlock which poses a threat to the Palestinian cause."

It is now, he said, a question of ending the stalemate which prevents the fulfillment of the Palestinian people's rights and the promotion of a comprehenisve settlement. He added: "It is also important that we pull the Palestinian cause back into the limelight and out of the shadow into which it has been pushed by such developments as the Lebanese crisis, the Gulf war, East-West events, and the problems of Central America."

Dr Ghali emphasized that since the Palestinians are the people with the real concern it is up to them to move and thus motivate other states to move.

The Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs affirmed that there has been no change in Egypt's attitude toward Israel. He added: We still urge it to take confidence-building measures in the occupied territory, especially the suspension of the building of settlements, a full amnesty for political detainees, social freedom and freedom of movement, and the reinstatement of the deposed mayors.

He continued: Continuity is a feature of the Egyptian policy on this matter, with the emphasis that unless the political and economic conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip change it will be difficult to set the Middle East peace efforts in motion.

Dr Ghali said he hopes that the Labor Party trend under Peres will overcome the Shamir-Sharon trend so that Israel can move to keep the promises Peres has been making in his public and private statements.

In reply to a question about the possibility of a new European initiative when Italy takes over the EC chairmanship, Dr Ghali said: "We ask Europe to move because that would lead to U.S. involvement. The problem calls for joint efforts, and that includes Jordan, the Palestinians, the United Nations, and the Soviet Union."

On the timing of the diplomatic move in the region, he said that the predominant view in the past was that "we should await the U.S. election results. So the time has come for action. If we do not move there will be a further deadlock. We had linked Arab moves to the end of U.S. elections, so if we want to give our moves credibility we should not waste time and we should make up our minds."

The Egyptian minister then spoke about the Addis Ababa OAU summit conferences results and the withdrawal of Morocco from the conference because of the Sahara problem. He said: "According to Article 32 of the OAU bylaws, Morocco will not leave the organization before the elapse of 1 year. Egypt hopes that the problem will be solved by then." He stressed that Morocco is still an OAU member and that differences can be resolved.

In his interview Dr Ghali said that the absence of President Sekou Toure from the political scene, the Libyan-Moroccan union, the limited number of African states which have maintained their support for Morocco over the past 4 years, and the fact that the Sahara problem is still there and has not been solved, are among the main reasons which have prevented the OAU from solving its problems.

On Egypt's position on the question of recognition of the so-called Saharan Republic, he said: "Our position has not changed. We have not recognized it but we will not withdraw from the OAU on account of its acceptance in that organization."

Ghali's Meeting With Sol Linowitz Reported

NC251354 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1333 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today received Sol Linowitz, former U.S. envoy to the Middle East, who is currently visiting Cairo as part of a tour of a number of the area's states. The discussions during the meeting dealt with the latest developments in the Middle East situation and the Palestinian issue as well as the situation in south Lebanon.

Iraqi Trade Minister Arrives in Cairo

NC251037 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0945 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — Hasan 'Ali, Iraqi minister of trade and RCC member, arrived in Cairo from Baghdad this morning leading a delegation on a 4-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of Dr Mustafa al-Sa'id, minister of economy and foreign trade.

During his stay in Cairo, the Iraqi minister will meet with Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali; Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, minister of planning and international cooperation; Dr Naji Shatlah, minister of supply and internal trade; and Sultan Abu 'Ali deputy chairman of the investment authority.

The Iraqi minister said that his visit to Egypt is in return for Dr Mustafa al-Sa'id's visit to Iraq last year.

He added that he brings for the noble Egyptian people greetings from the Iraqi people who are waging their pan-Arab battle at the eastern gate of the Arab homeland to ward off the Iranian aggression.

He noted that the visit is also within the framework of developing economic and trade relations between Egypt and Iraq and for consultations with our brothers to consolidate these relations.

Dr Mustafa al-Sa'id, who met the Iraqi minister, said that he and the Iraqi minister would discuss ways to increase the trade exchange from $35 million last year to $50 million this year.

Mustafa al-Sa'id added that during his visit, the Iraqi guest will sign a protocol.

It is known that Iraq exports the following products to Egypt: Sulfur, fertilizer, and hides.

Iraq imports from Egypt: textiles, yarn, cigarettes, iron, and steel.

Defense Minister Meets With Tanzanian Counterpart

NC251406 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister, minister of defense and war production, and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, today received in his office Brigadier Kimario, Tanzanian defense minister, and the delegation accompanying him. During the meeting, a cooperation protocol was signed between the two countries.

The Tanzanian defense minister arrived in Cairo last Sunday on a 1-week visit.

Further on Al-Azhar Student Demonstrations

Police Seal Off Faculty

NC251819 Paris AFP in English 1803 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, Nov 25 (AFP) — Hundreds of riot police tonight sealed off the theology faculty of Cairo's Al-Azhar Islamic University, after students launched a fourth day of mass protests. A senior police officer at the scene said Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi was supervising security operations from a nearby hotel, while other sources indicated that a top government official, possibly Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, might parley with student leaders.

The demonstrations at the thousand-year-old university, a centre of Islamic thought and the seat of the Sunni Moslem leadership, erupted on Thursday after a student was run over by a police van.

An eyewitness report said that at least 20 students were wounded on the first day of protest, when police opened fire to break up a crowd of stone-throwing students. Late today, several thousand Islamic students, mostly in their first year of studies, were ensconced behind the main gate at the faculty. Police said that a number of students had equipped themselves with cobblestones and rocks.

The students were believed to be split between hardliners chanting for the immediate introduction of shari'a, or Islamic law, and moderates pressing for academic and other reforms affecting student life. But a united call has been issued for the dismissal of Rector Muhammad al-Sa'di Farhud, and the resignation of Interior Minister Rusdhi, it was learnt.

University Suspends Classes

NC252343 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2250 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — The Al-Azhar University has decided to suspend studies at its colleges in Cairo and in the girls college branch for 2 weeks as of tomorrow, Monday.

A number of the university students assembled last Thursday to express their feelings about a car accident that led to the death of a colleague. The students again assembled yesterday morning and all day today. The president of the university and a number of professors held a dialogue with them to learn the reasons for these actions. A number of students, however, insisted on incitement and moved outside the university campus in an attempt to obstruct traffic in certain main streets.

This affirms that they are trying to incite riots among the students. This prompted the university management to make this decision.

Rushdi Denies Al-Azhar 'Rumors'

NC252351 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi has said that at 1000 today a number of students from the commerce, religion propagation and shari'a, Arabic language, and Islamic studies colleges assembled inside Al-Azhar University. The assembly continued for 3 hours and afterward the students went to their study rooms without interference from police. The minister said that the students gathered to discuss certain topics relevant to studies and that the meeting had nothing to do with the death of their colleague from the commerce college, who was killed when a police car struck him. The driver was remanded on the same night and referred for prosecution. It was ordered that he be jailed and tried immediately.

The minister added that the students asked to meet with Al-Azhar University officials for discussions. President of the Al-Azhar University Dr Muhammad al-Sa'di Farhud met with the students and they discussed the matters that concerned them. Afterward, the assembled students reached the gates of the university campus and stayed for some time, chanting Islamic slogans, and then returned to their colleges.

The interior minister affirmed that the rumors that a number of girls were injured, that one of them died, and that police officers entered the university campus are untrue. He said that the police did not even approach the university area and that none of the university colleges were damaged or burned, as certain rumors said.

He said that following the student gatherings after the incident involving the commerce college student, a meeting took place in his office on Thursday evening. Attending the meeting were the vice president of the university, a number of college deans, representatives of the Al-Azhar University students, and the students residing in the university campus dormitories. The meeting dealt with certain issues that concerned the students. It was explained that their demands were met even before they made them, such as providing buses for their transportation and organizing traffic on Al-Nasr Street. The vice president and the deans pointed out to the students that there was no reason for their stand. The interior minister affirms that he will absolutely not allow any form of demonstration or marches.

Mubarak Denies Existence of Foreign Bases

NC251832 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1732 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has reiterated Egypt's support for any Arab rapprochement, and welcomed the convocation of the PNC and wished the council every success.

President Mubarak reaffirmed that no foreign bases exist on Egyptian territory. The president called on the 'Ayn Shams University Council and anyone the university chooses to visit the Ra's Banas base to ascertain that no foreign bases exist in the area. This was stated by Dr Muhammad al-Hashimi, the president of 'Ayn Shams University, following President Mubarak's meeting today with the university's teaching staff.

He said that during the 3-hour meeting the president explained the situation on the international, Arab, and African levels. He also explained the situation with regard to the Palestinian issue, and answered all the questions raised during the meeting. The 'Ayn Shams University president said that President Mubarak emphasized a number of features which he admires and insists upon, foremost among them being democracy, respect for the law, and the supreme interests of the people.

The president expressed his pride in the Egyptian universities and their major role in raising Egypt's stature at home, in the Arab nation, and in the international community with the scientists, thinkers, and intellectuals they provide.

The 'Ayn Shams University president said that President Mubarak expressed his appreciation for the Egyptian universities' role in studying Egyptian national problems, particularly those pertaining to housing, subsidies, and wages.

Mubarak Confers With Defense Minister, Commanders

NC241523 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held a meeting at the Defense Ministry at noon today. Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production and commander in chief of the Armed Forces; Lieutenant General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, the chief of staff of the Armed Forces; and the Armed Forces commanders attended the meeting which lasted well over 3 and 1/2 hours.

Information Minister Interviewed on Arab Satellite

GF251416 Muscat 'UMAN in Arabic 24 Nov 84 pp 3, 10

[Interview with Information Minister Muhammad Safwat al-Sharif by Nabil Fahmi, in Cairo — no date given]

[Excerpts] Fahmi: Can Your Excellency talk to us about Omani-Egyptian relations?

Al-Sharif: When we began to consider a joint production plan between Egypt's radio and television union and the Omani Television Production Corporation, we discounted material factors and all profit and loss considerations. Our objective was that the [television] production should be good and the treatment of the subject matter should be novel. We used all our resources to achieve this end. We wanted to serve not only viewers in Egypt and Oman but also the Arab viewer in general. We provided supervision and good follow-up measures to ensure the achievement of such an objective. The results of our work were excellent and were beneficial to the entire Arab world. This is corroborated by the press reviews and what the critics said.

These results and the positive response from Arab television networks encouraged us to produce more programs — not only for Egypt and Oman, but also for the other Arab countries. Children's programs will be produced as well as other programs currently under study.

There is also growing and effective coordination between Egypt and Oman on their information stands on various levels. The best example is the coordination and cooperation achieved during the nonaligned information ministers conference in Indonesia with the aim of furthering Arab causes. This resulted in a meeting of the ministers of information and transport of the two countries in Egypt.

Another aspect of cooperation is that we have placed our external information offices — and there are about 40 of them — in the service of our common causes on the international level and used them to cover world events by providing services to foreign correspondents and information media or for covering the visits of our leaders and official delegations.

Fahmi: What is Egypt's role in the launching of the first Arab satellite — for which we have waited for so long — expected to be launched soon? What do you expect from it?

Al-Sharif: I have lived through the experience of the Arab satellite as a member of the Arab Permanent Information Committee in the early 1970s. The Arab satellite is so late that its technology has become out of date. The Arab satellite began as a project in a decade when there was a common Arab goal, and it is being launched at a time when there are many differences. It is still stumbling with regard to the construction of ground stations. We had a role in the project, but our role was frozen when inter-Arab differences emerged.

At one stage Egypt was in need of the satellite; it wanted one of its channels to cover its territory. However, as an official in charge of information in Egypt I could not remain idle and just wait for the Arab satellite. Therefore I initiated a plan to cover the Egyptian land mass by constructing two microwave stations for the first and second [television] channels and also for the radio — the general program and local programs. This is the natural right of the Egyptian citizen to information in his country, his right to receive information and to express himself. Egyptian television transmission can now be received throughout Egypt — indeed, it can be received in some neighboring countries, although this was not planned or intended.

Now, we are no longer in need of the Arab satellite. However, there is no doubt that as a bigger objective and as an information service for all the Arab countries it has an important role to play. We welcome the project and we are prepared to contribute all our advanced resources by means of experts and programs so that we can cooperate in production and serve our Arab peoples.

Armed Forces Issue Communiques on War Operations

Communique No 1,660

JN241718 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Communique No 1,660 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 24 November 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Iraq's valiant sons continue to defend right, land, and principles and continue to confront the forces of the frustrated Khomeyniite regime. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. A courageous force of our valiant forward units carried out a daring attack against an enemy hill opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield. After pounding it with all types of weapons, our hero fighters stormed the hill, killing 12 , wounding many others, and destroying 2 machine guns and many other weapons and equipment of various types.

In another area of the same sector, two enemy troops were killed, others were wounded, and two shelters were destroyed. The occupants of the shelters were killed.

2. Using all types of weapons, our forward units pounded enemy positions, troop concentrations, and enemy engineering equipment in the operational sector east of Basra, killing three, wounding others, and destroying six infantry positions and one observation post.

3. Enemy troops and vehicles were sighted opposite one of our forward unit's positions in the central sector of the battlefield. Our unit pounded them with artillery and other types of weapons, killing and wounding many and destroying one vehicle.

4. The criminal enemy shelled a civilian area in Basra suburbs this morning.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 November 1984

Communique No 1,661

JN251802 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Communique No 1,661 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 November 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With men whose hearts are filled with determination, strength, and conviction, our Armed Forces stand in defense of right and justice on every position on the battle front in order to strike at the forces of the misguided gang, affirming their ability to crush any reckless adventures that the enemy may have included in its losing calculations.

The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units directed its artillery fire at enemy targets east of Basra scoring accurate hits, inflicting heavy losses in men, equipment, and supplies, and destroying six infantry positions.

2. One of our forward units engaged enemy positions and a group of its men in the northern sector killing one, wounding others, and inflicting losses on various pieces of equipment. Our forces also destroyed two personnel shelters. Our forces found military equipment and one medium machine gun elsewhere in the same sector. They were brought to our forward positions. All of them were serviceable.

3. Our artillery pounded one of the main enemy positions in the Maysan sector, destroying the position and killing those manning it. Flames were seen rising from it. One enemy soldier was killed and two others wounded elsewhere in the same sector.

4. Escaping the regime of charlatanism in Iran, new groups of Iranian civilians sought refugee with our forward units in the northern sector. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

5. The rancorous enemy shelled Khurmal with heavy artillery, destroying one house.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 Novemebr 1984

Official Spokesman Issues Warning to Iranians

JN251744 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] The following is the text of an official spokesman's statement:

The Iranian rulers are accustomed to issuing empty statements and hollow threats against Iraq and the Arab nation. Revealing as they do the Iranian rulers' evil intentions and expansionist aims, these statements also disclose their ignorance concerning the factors that govern the conflict, particularly the great ability of the Iraqi people and their Armed Forces — ability which is based on firm rights. It is now clear to everyone that Iraq is the superior force due to the quality of its men and their efficiency and in view of the destructive, lethal weapons they possess. Iraq, moreover, is defending its soil and the dignity of its people.

During the battles of the past 4 years, the Iranian rulers experienced the determination of Iraq and the vitality of its sons. We do not think the Iranian rulers have forgotten the piles of dismembered, burned corpses of their forces that remained for a long time awaiting someone to bury them. That day, the stinking Rafsanjani and no one else was talking about victories that existed only in his sick imagination.

Stemming from our sense of responsibility and regardless of the motives behind Rafsanjani's statements, we say that wills can be tested by deeds rather than words. We call on him to go beyond words and come to the battlefield with the remnants of his forces, because we will make it a sweeping war of extrrmination from which none of your hooligans will escape, God willing. The Iraqi

Armed Forces are fully prepared to crush with their feet rather than their weapons the evil intentions of the Iranian rulers, the suspect agents of Zionism. While we challenge the misguided ruling gang in Iran, and stemming from our sense of responsibility, we warn the Iranian people, who are afflicted with their rulers, to preserve what remains of their sons; otherwise, we will again fill the land with their corpses. It was not we that wronged them: They wronged their own souls. [Koranic verse]

Navy Source Statement on Battle Anniversary

JN251448 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 21 Nov 84 p 7

[Sa'di 'Ali al-Sanad dispatch]

[Text] On the second anniversary of the great Gulf battle, which took place on the night of 20-21 November 1982, a source at the naval and coastal defence forces made the following statement to *AL-THAWRAH:*

The night of 20-21 November 1982 was a great, historic night when our brave naval force moved from a defensive to an offensive postiion. Our forces sailed to a distance that was 400 km away from the nearest Iraqi point and were 20-25 km from the Iranian coast, a distance which is nothing in terms of nautical distances. Our forces directed crippling blows to the enemy from points the enemy did not believe our naval units could reach. The enemy throught that its targets were secure. The determination of our naval men was derived from their sincerity to their leadership. They promised the leadership to turn the Gulf into a graveyard for the charlatans. There was trust between the planners and the implementers of the operation. Certain other factors effectively contributed toward the success of the operation.

The importance of our operation stems from the fact that it was a transformation from a defensive to an offensive position in a region where the enemy thought its forces were secure. From the traditional warfare viewpoint, this is true; but there is nothing impossible for our valiant men who, after 50 months of fighting, have affirmed their ability to carry out any task entrusted to them. The world knows that following the Gulf operation, the Iranian enemy could not face the Iraqi Navy and so remained neutralized. It was truly a daring operation that was preceded by great technical efforts, in addition to the efforts of the planners and implementers who insisted on carrying out their task at all costs. Thus, the Gulf operation was a unique operation because it was well prepared and was based on accurate information and perfect planning.

The source added: After 50 months of fighting, the brave naval fighter, prompted by his iron will and belief in his land and principles, continues to exert his full efforts to promote victory and destroy the maritime targets that approach the forbidden zone of military operations that were repeatedly declared in the General Command of the Armed Forces' communiques.

It is noteworthy that the targets that our Navy has destroyed and sunk since the beginning of the war total 298 maritime targets. Therefore, we reiterate our warning to the owners of ships and tankers against approaching the forbidden zone, stressing that we will continue our tight siege. This is a legitimate right as long as the war continues, and those who cooperate with the enemy and assist it in prolonging the war deserve destruction.

Concluding his statement to the newspaper *AL-THAWRAH*, the naval source said: We proudly say that during a short period, our Navy achieved broad strides in all fields, and that the enemy will be surprised by many things. This is due to Staff Marshall President Saddam Husayn's efforts and outstanding leadership. His excellency's valuable instructions and continued interest in our operations has greatly contributed to achieving further victories over our ignorant ambitions enemy. Victory comes from God.

AL-THAWRAH Calls for Sanctions Against Iran

JN251231 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0945 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Nov (INA) — The newspaper *AL-THAWRAH* has called on the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] to refer the issue of the Iranian regime's crime against the Iraqi prisoners of war to the UN Security Council in order that sanctions may be imposed against it according to international charters and norms.

In an article today, the paper says that expelling the Iranian regime from the ICRC is the least that should be done to expose Iran's crimes to the entire world after the ICRC had witnessed the crime of killing the Iraqi prisoners in the Gorgan camp on 10 October. It stresses that the conditions of the Iraqi prisoners in Iran became more difficult after the Iranian regime had prevented the ICRC from performing its work in Iran in the wake of the disclosure of the crime.

The paper calls on the UN secretary general to inform the United Nations of the true situation and to suggest appropriate measures to protect the Iraqi prisoners and punish Iran, whose refusal to receive a UN committee is considered an official confession of its perpetration of the crime.

AL-THAWRAH also appeals to the UN Security Council to act quickly in order to protect the Iraqi prisoners of war and decide on sanctions that will force Iran to respect the Geneva conventions, stop the war, and conclude peace with Iraq.

ome of them. It emphasizes that retaliation for them will be proportional with the Iraqi individual's value and status in the international community.

'Aziz Arrives in U.S.

JN251101 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1040 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Washington, 25 Nov (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Washington at dawn today on an official visit to the United States. The Iraqi official was received at Andrews Air Base by Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs; 'Ismat Kittani, Iraqi Foreign Ministry under secretary; the official in charge of the Iraqi Interests Section in Washington; and several U.S. State Department officials.

Tariq 'Aziz had earlier stopped over in Paris, where he held talks with his French counterpart Claude Cheysson on bilateral relations and some current international issues.

Restoration of Diplomatic Ties With U.S. Expected

LD241859 Kuwait KUNA in English 1607 GMT 24 Nov 84

[By Raphael Calis]

[Text] Washington, Nov 24 (KUNA) — A new chapter in American-Iraqi relations opens when Iraq's Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz arrives here Saturday on a much-heralded six-day visit that is expected to culminate in the restoration of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

'Aziz, who stopped for one-day in Paris en route to Washington, is expected to meet President Ronald Reagan and Vice President Bush Monday morning at the beginning of series of meetings with top administration officials until Thursday.

Neither Iraqi nor American officials would give any details about 'Aziz's scvhedule or even talk publicly about the expected restoration of diplomatic ties, but White House sources say a special ceremony is expected at the White House Monday during which a simultaneous announcement will be made in Baghdad and Washington while the Iraqi and American flags are raised in both capitals.

The Iraqi official will be making a number of private and public appearances during his stay here — over and above the official talks. The head of the Iraqi Interests Section Nizar Hamdun, who starting Monday will be the Iraqi ambassador in Washington, is hosting a big reception in honor of 'Aziz Sunday night.

On Tuesday morning, 'Aziz will be meeting with top academic specialists on the Middle East when he addresses breakfast meetings at both the Foreign Policy Institute and the American Enterprise Institute.

'Aziz will meet a number of times with Secretary of State George Shultz and with Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger in addition to some members of the newly-elected 99th Congress.

The Iran-Iraq war, needless to say, will be the main topic of discussion during these negotiations as Iraq seeks to press the United States to back the Iraqi position in its four-year-old war with Iran.

The expected restoration of diplomatic relations has long been expected and talked about here and in the Middle East 17 years after Iraq broke formal ties following the outbreak of the 1967 war with Israel.

Things have been moving slowly in this direction for a long time — indeed since a year or so before the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war in 1980. But since the spring of 1983 there has been a series of high-level Iraqi-U.S. meetings unprecedented since the formal break of ties, including an encounter last fall between 'Aziz and Shultz at the United Nations.

It was then that 'Aziz informed Shultz that Iraq is now ready to restore the broken ties between Baghdad and Washington and the Iraqi official said he was ready to fly to Washington immediately for the official announcement.

But Shultz reportedly informed 'Aziz that it would be better if the official announcement was postponed till after the American elections in November.

But even without the formal announcement, relations between the United States and Iraq have been moving closer for some time. Among the signals of this warmer relationship:

— For nearly two years now, the Reagan administration has been more critical of Iran in its war with Iraq following the so-called American "tilt" towards the Baghdad regime. This was briefly soured over the American charges of Iraq's use of chemical weapons.

— At administration bidding, the U.S. Export-Import Bank has been moving unmistakenly in the direction of ensuring credit for hefty American participation in the new Iraqi oil pipeline.

— With U.S. Government (?approval), the Iraqi Government has been negotiating for the purchase of possibly 45 helicopters for export under civilian controls but that may (?be refused) in its war with Iran.

— American firms are hoping to zoom in on the huge Iraqi market to boost their dwindling exports to the Middle East. Most U.S. exports to Iraq have been agricultural, mainly because the U.S. Department of Agriculture granted Iraq a three-year 860 million commodity loan in 1982.

Now U.S. exporters see the Iraqis as wanting top American technology and wanting to deal directly with American companies.

Iraq, for its part, hopes to benefit from the restoration of diplomatic ties in several ways. The first, of course, is military. Iraq has been pressing the U.S. to press its allies, especially in Europe, to stop arms supplies to Iran.

The second area is political, the Iraqis want to make use of the Americans' international influence, notably with Israel on issues like ensuring against any attack on the proposed new pipe line. The Iraqis have not forgotten Israel's attack on the nuclear plant three years ago.

On its part, the United States hopes to prove that it [words indistinct] can have good relations with the Arab countries while maintaining its close ties with Israel. The Iraqis hope they can use their influence to dilute this strong American-Israeli relationship.

American officials (?do) not hide the fact that they do see the benefit of the evolution of a new axis in the Arab world — what is called here the Cairo-(?Amman)-Baghdad axis — that would dampen the influence of radical countries like Libya and Syria while at the same time diluting Soviet influence in the region.

Trade Minister, Delegation Leave for Egypt

JN250839 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, left Baghdad for Cairo this morning at the head of a delegation on a visit to Egypt at the invitation of Dr Mustafa al-Sa'id, Egyptian minister of economy and foreign trade. The visit comes within the bilateral meetings aimed at discussing bilateral economic, trade, and technical cooperation and the ways of promoting it.

The delegation comprises representatives of the foreign economic relations committee, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Trade, Industry and Minerals, Light Industries, and Finance, and the central department for prices.

Husayn Cable on Killing Iraqi POW's in Iran

JN251400 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Nov 84

["Text" of King Husayn's cable to the Arab and Islamic leaders, the Arab League secretary general, and the ICO secretary general — date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Why turn they not to God, and seek His Forgiveness? [Koranic verse]

We were frightened and shocked by the report of the International Committee of the Red Cross chairman on the organized killing which Iraqi prisoners are subject to in Iranian prison camps, and the dangers facing the 50,000 Iraqi prisoners in accordance with a prepared policy and premeditated plan being implemented by Iranian soldiers.

Since the Iranian regime has refused until now to obey God's order: If any one slew a person — unless it be for murder or for spreading mischief in the land, it would be as if he slew the whole people [Koranic verse] — and since the Arabs and Muslims have failed until now to apply God's judgement on the party which oppresses people and does not obey God's order, we appeal to you in the name of religion and humanity, to exert every individual and collective effort to prevent the Iranian regime from continuing the ugliest crimes agaisnt Muslim prisioners whose only power and strength are their patience and belief in God.

Our Lord: Forgive us, and our brethern who came before us into the Faith, and leave not in our hearts rancor against those who have believed our Lord: Thou art indeed full of kindness most merciful. [Koranic verse]

King Husayn Confers With Iraq's Na'im Haddad

JN251549 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Amman, 25 Nov (PETRA) — His Majesty King Husayn received Na'im Haddad, RCC member and head of the Iraqi delegation to the PNC meetings now being held in Amman, at Al-Nadwah Palace this afternoon. The meeting was attended by the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, the deputy prime minister and interior minister, the foreign minister, and the Iraqi charge d'affaires in Amman.

Husayn Receives Guinean Minister, Message

JN251643 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Hashemite Court today General Alpha Oumar Dialio, member of the Guinean Military Council for National Reform and minister of fishing and animal husbandry in the Republic of Guinea. The Guinean minister conveyed to his majesty a message from the Guinean president.

Layla Sharaf Comments on Husayn's PNC Proposal

JN260945 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 26 Nov 84 pp 1, 24

[Text] Amman — Information Minister Layla Sharaf has explained that King Husayn's proposals in his speech at the PNC were a general framework for the Palestinian brothers to decide on what is suitable. Replying to questions posed by many journalists, Sharaf said that Jordan has not put forth an initiative or a peace program, but has only proposed a concept for initiating joint Palestinian-Jordanian action.

Sharaf stressed that UN Security Council Resolution 242 is the basis for an international peace conference in which the PLO would participate. Sharaf added that His Majesty King Husayn has proposed this as a general framework for joint action and that Jordan considers this to be a suitable beginning and not an end. Sharaf said: We will use it as a basis because it is the only international resolution representing international legitimacy which affirms the inadmissibility of the forcible seizure of the lands of others, and Israel's obligation to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories.

Layla Sharaf said that these proposals are not new. What is new is that they were made to the Palestinian people's representatives.

The information minister said that Jordan believes this is the suitable time for an international peace conference, particularly since Israel has become an economic burden on the United States, the international state of affairs has improved, and the European countries' stands have changed after the Fes summit. We must also not forget that this is the last chance for the U.S. Administration under President Ronald Reagan.

Layla Sharaf said: The time has come for some to stop raising slogans and, instead, devote their efforts to carrying out a reassessment of stands and to making decisions that are in harmony with the historical, international, and Arab reality and that would lead to a just, comprehensive, and lasting solution to our pan-Arab cause.

Labor Minister on Accords With GCC, Other Countries

LD251448 Kuwait KUNA in English 1039 GMT 25 Nov 84

[By Najat al-Hajji]

[Text] Amman, Nov 25 (KUNA) — Jordanian minister of work and social development [title as received] Taysir 'Abd al-Jabir has said that officials of social security in the Gulf Cooperation Council states welcome the application of social security on Jordanian residents in the Gulf countries.

In an interview with KUNA, the Jordanian minister said that a law was being prepared to that effect. He added that this law was submitted to the Jordanian Ministerial Council, which might be issued within the forthcoming months and be implemented on the second half of next year.

On foreign labour in Jordan, 'Abd al-Jabir said that Jordan gives priority to Arab labourers to work in Jordan while the foreign workers have limited fields of employment.

On Jordan's labour agreements with Arab countries, the Jordanian official said these have been concluded with Tunisia and Morocco and a draft agreement is being drawn with Sudan.

He added that a labour agreement is being prepared with Egypt, while contacts have been made with Qatar and the United Arab Emirates during which draft agreements have been drawn.

Explosive Charge Discovered in U.S. Center

JN252126 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Amman — A source at the Interior Ministry has stated that security forces have discovered a small explosive charge in the garden of the American Center for Oriental Studies in Jabal, Amman. The charge was defused.

Explosives Seized; PNC Interference Claimed

NC260606 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2300 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov [MENA] — In its 26 November issue, the newspaper *AL-AKHBAR* says that Jordan's security forces have captured enough explosives to blow up an entire city. The explosives, which were loaded on 12 trucks, were caught with a band of terrorists who had set off from Damascus to thwart the PNC meeting in Amman.

The paper says that the Jordanian security forces chased the terrorists in the desert where they were trying to avoid border checkpoints and enter Jordan. The terrorists, who were all detained, confessed that they were sent by Damascus to stage sabotage operations in Jordan and thus to disrupt the PNC meeting.

The paper points out that the Jordanian security forces have also arrested three people from a group led by Palestinian terrorist Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna]. They were trying to infiltrate Jordan near Irbid. It has been reported that Abu Nidal went to Libya 3 days before the PNC meeting and that Radio Tripoli said that Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi received him immediately.

Resolution 242 Defended as Starting Point

JN261025 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 26 Nov 84 p 26

[Yusuf Abu Layl article: "Why 242?"]

[Text] Some people may ask: Why do Arab leaders keep mentioning Resolution 242 when everyone knows that this resolution did not fulfill the ambitions which the Arabs in general, and the Palestinians in particular, had expected from an international organization such as the United Nations and its Security Council?

True, Resolution 242 deals only with the humanitarian aspect of the Palestine question by trying to tackle the question of the "refugees" and the "human being" without finding a real solution to what is more serious and important, which is the question of the usurped Arab territory. Still, and irrespective of all other considerations, Resolution 242 is an international resolution that was approved by most world nations, especially those that carry weight in the world balance of power. Without them, it will be difficult to reach any solution acceptable internationally. Moreover, Resolution 242 was accepted by most of the Arab states that are closely linked to the Middle East question.

From this particular angle — international acceptance of Resolution 242 and the pressing Arab need to take action and not waste time waiting for a miracle — this resolution becomes valuable as a starting point for a dialogue with the forces that carry weight internationally. They will see then that we are talking with them on common ground.

We are not defending Resolution 242. It is an incomplete resolution that falls short of fulfilling our Arab ambitions in solving our issues.

It is an acceptable basis to most nations, however, and we need the support of these nations. Without them, we will not be able to achieve our full objectives. If we begin with Resolution 242, we will find people who will understand us. We can then move to other stages which we consider essential.

Resolution 242 is an incomplete resolution, but it is a suitable basis for starting the dialogue with the other sides and breaking the ice that is covering our issue. If we are tactful and flexible in our world diplomacy, we will be able to move to the next phase of ending world indifference to our cause and carrying the world with us to the stage that reactivates our cause.

Editorial on Jordanian-Palestinian Stand

JN240843 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 24 Nov 84 pp 1, 24

[Editorial: "A Stand Against Subjugation"]

[Text] The call for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian stand raises two questions. The first is: Does this joint stand represent a guarantee that the United States and Israel will attend an international conference in which the PLO participates, and which will be held in order to implement the principle of peace in exchange for territory? The second question is: What will the situation be if the joint stand does not lead to a just and peaceful solution?

The answer to the first question was obvious in the speech King Husayn delivered to open the PNC the day before yesterday. The intent is that Jordan's proposal is not the outcome of proposals presented within the framework of efforts to reach a peaceful settlement of the Palestine cause but the result of understanding the general international stand. This international stand believes it is possible to regain the occupied territory through a Jordanian-Palestinian formula that will produce commitments by both parties — commitments which the world considers necessary to achieve a just and balanced settlement. This means that the Jordanian-Palestinian stand is no guarantee of a peaceful settlement; it is a basis for an attempt to achieve the settlement.

Regarding the second question, we must remind everyone that the joint stand will not deprive the PLO of other options if it does not lead to a peaceful settlement. In any case, this joint stand will remain the basis to establish a unified Arab stand that will assume its responsibilities toward other options. We must not forget that the Jordanian-Palestinian special relationship is the indispensable motive for adopting any option.

In light of all these facts, the Jordanian-Palestinian stand is not a tactical action but a militant need regardless of the fields of resistance. The suggested Jordanian-Palestinian effort is a facet of civilian resistance. Consequently, this effort is not a pledge to relinquish other fields of resistance if Israeli intransigence and U.S. collusion prevent a just and honorable settlement of the cause.

The strong and justified doubts about Israeli and U.S. intentions should not turn into doubts about the ability of the resistance and the joint effort so long as insistence on rejecting subjugation and capitulation remains the pledge that crowns the Jordanian-Palestinian special relationship.

Struggle in the various arenas should not be frozen. The rejection or acceptance must turn into action that will give it force and effect. Jordanian-Palestinian joint action will be a basis to invigorate the cause in the international arena and to pool potentials in the Arab arena in order to regain the usurped rights and to establish real peace in the region. This stand will not accept subjugation or capitulation, and will not relinquish the other options along the path of resistance and struggle if the forces of evil becomes allies and do not respond to the attempt to establish peace.

Joint Action Urged

JN261135 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 26 Nov 84 p 1

[Editorial: "Joint Action Formula"]

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn's speech before the PNC was clear. He made it a point to present the facts and the possibilities in a detailed manner and in simple, readable, and understandable language. However, this did not prevent some people from interpreting the king's speech according to their own preconceived intentions, calculations, and judgments. Perhaps one major manifestation of this purposeful, arbitary interpretation is their persistence in saying that Jordan has presented a new initiative.

A return to His Majesty King Husayn's speech and a faithful and honest reading of this speech away from personal whims and preconceived judgments and intentions clearly reveal that his majesty spoke about the need to find a formula for joint action that places the two fraternal peoples along the correct path, in the right direction, and toward the correct objective. In fact, as his majesty pointed out, this formula, which is still missing and which is urgently needed, can only materialize with the support of the Arab brothers, in harmony with the Rabat resolutions, and with what the world considers as essential for reaching a peaceful, just, balance, and lasting settlement.

We believe that a real confrontation with the dangerous Zionist plan, which is backed by international forces that have abandoned their moral, international, and humanitarian responsibilities, calls for finding a formula for joint action that places Jordan and the PLO on one path — one backed by the Arabs and enjoying all the means for winning international support, especially the assertion of Resolution 242, which has been unanimously approved internationally and which clearly provides for withdrawal. In other words, it clearly refers to the question of land, which is the first and last objective of Zionist plans. Turning our back on this resolution clearly means turning our back on international agreement that the West Bank and the Gaza sector are occupied territories and that occupation ends with withdrawal. If this generation succeeds in protecting this territory's Arabism, it would be a great accomplishment that would ensure the means and factors for other accomplishments to which we aspire.

Reportage on Bikfayya Security Talks

Syria's Khaddam Arrives

NC240904 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0845 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived at the presidential summer residence in Bikfayya at 1010. He was accompanied by Walid Junblatt, minister of public works and tourism; Akram Shuhayyib; Syian Intelligence Chief Colonel Ghazi Kan'an; and Minister Victor Qasir. Upon his arrival, Khaddam immediately went to the second floor where he was met by President Amin al-Jumayyil.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami arrived at the presidential summer residence at 1040. He was met by Army Intelligence Chief Brigadier General Qassis. Karami then joined the meeting between President al-Jumayyil and Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

Karami, Khaddam Note Agreement

NC241847 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] The Lebanese-Syrian talks ended in Bikfayya at 1730 today following two rounds, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami affirmed after the meeting that agreement was reached on implementing the security plans approved by the Cabinet. He reassured everyone that airing grievances clears the air. Prime Minister Karami said:

[Begin recording] [Karami] The meeting was good and fruitful. At the end of the discussion and deliberation on the subjects on the agenda, agreement was reached on some measures and arrangements regarding liberation, security, and reforms, as well as on the security plans approved by the Cabinet, which are to be implemented at the end of this and the following week. I again reaffirm and assure everyone that airing grievances clears the air.

[First unidentified reporter] Is it possible to say, Mr Prime Minister, that problems which existed in the Cabinet have ended as a result of today's meeting with Mr Khaddam and Minister Junblatt?

[Karami] There is no doubt that this meeting resulted in agreement on a work program which we shall implement to achieve our goals in terms of security and stability.

[Reporter] Will implementation begin at the beginning of the week, as scheduled?

[Karami] God willing.

[Second reporter] Will Minister Junblatt attend the Cabinet's meetings?

[Karami] God willing.

[Third reporter] Did you discuss other issues, such as information and administrative reforms?

[Karami] This meeting dealt with all subjects, as I have said, including the unofficial information media, administrative reform, security reform, and reform arrangements in general. [end recording]

Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam affirmed before leaving Bikfayya for Damascus that there was an agreement in views among all sides on all issues raised. He said that large strides were made in this meeting, which we hope will soon be translated into action. Khaddam said:

[Begin recording] [Khaddam] At the meetings held in the presence of his excellency the president, Prime Minister Karami, and the ministers, we discussed various subjects that could speed up the implementation of the security plan in Beirut and on the coastal road. We also discussed ways to speed up the implementation of the government policy statement and of what was agreed upon in this statement. As a result of the discussion, there was an agreement in views among all sides on all the issues discussed.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Khaddam, is it possible to say that today's meetings and the talks which took place are the beginning of the end of the proposed solutions?

[Khaddam] In every meeting we make large strides. In this meeting, large strides were made, which we hope will soon be translated into action.

[Reporter] There are very imminent deadlines during the beginning of the week. There is the question of bridging the security gaps in greater Beirut and the deployment of the Army along the coastal road up to the Al-Awwali. Have all the obstacles facing these security steps been removed?

[Khaddam] The discussions which took place were devoted to two considerations. The first consideration was the need to adopt measures to strengthen the internal front in the face of the Israeli occupation and to strengthen the Lebanese position for the liberation of the Lebanese territory from the Israeli occupation. The second consideration was the need to achieve reconciliation and to complete the accord process. The issues discussed are liable to aid the approach of the Lebanese Government in both areas.

[Reporter] What are the steps of Damascus to speed up the moves for a solution and an agreement?

[Khaddam] Syria, as President Hafiz al-Asad has stated, is doing its utmost to enable the Lebanese Government to achieve its objectives in both areas — Israeli withdrawal and national reconciliation.

[Reporter] You, of course, have discussed the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations in Al-Naqurah. How do you assess the four sessions of these negotiations?

[Khaddam] So far it seems that the Israeli enemy is continuing to adhere to his positions. I can also say that the Lebanese delegation continues, and will continue, as I heard from his excellency the president, to adhere to its national position. [end recording]

Phases of Security Plan

NC241945 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] The Lebanese-Syrian Talks that ended this evening dealt in details with all current Lebanese issues, especially the political and security issues. On security, the NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY has learned from informed sources that the implementation of the comprehensive security plan will be carried out in three phases:

The first phase involves the Beirut Plan. It will be implemented beginning at dawn on Monday. The second phase involves the coastal road extending from Jisr al-Madfun in the north to Al-Awwali in the south. The implementation of this phase will begin on Sunday, 2 December. The third phase involves the mountain area along the Beirut-Suq al-Gharb-Damascus road. The implementation of this phase will begin on 9 December.

The sources pointed out that the implementation of these three phases will be completed in 3 weeks.

Regarding the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations in Al-Naqurah, being held under UN auspices, the informed sources pointed out that Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam had conveyed Syria's position that supports the Lebanese stand, describing the Lebanese stances as patriotic and heroic.

The sources also emphasized that today's discussions dealt with halting the propaganda campaigns, pointing out that an agreement was reached to halt these campaigns at the beginning of next week.

Birri on Bikfayya Talks

NC250739 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, said that the Amal Movement will help facilitate the implementation of the security plan for Beirut and the coastal area. He added that part of the [Bikfayya] talks dealt with the reform process and the need to activate it and that it was decided to speed up the executive steps of this process. Minister Birri said:

[Begin recording] [Birri] As you were told, the atmosphere at the talks was positive. The greater part of the talks dealt with the security plan. The date of implementation remains unchanged in principle. For technical reasons the plan will be implemented in Beirut on Sunday and Monday instead of Saturday and Sunday. The plan for the coastal line and the Army deployment on the coastal highway will, in principle, be implemented on Sunday. The Army commander and the chief of staff were summoned to the meeting. They briefed us on the measures and preparations which are underway.

[Unidentified reporter] Will the Amal movement help facilitate the security plan for Beirut and the coastal highway?

[Birri] In fact, we have always done so. There is nothing new in this framework. We promised this before. The talks also dealt with the reform process and the need to speed up the process and the legislative decrees and so forth as stipulated in the government's policy statement.

[Reporter] What was decided in this respect?

[Birri] It was decided to speed up the steps. The president and the prime minister may ask the Legislative Decrees Committee to step up its work in view of the deadline set for its task.

[Reporter] Have you discussed the media question?

[Birri] On this question, the unification of the media has been decided upon in principle. The question of appointments in this area will be of main concern in the near future.

[Reporter] Were all the gaps in the security plan bridged?

[Birri] Regarding the private information media, it was decided as a first step to stop the information campaigns to create a positive atmosphere. Such an atmosphere is reflected through the media. The war of words is no less important than the war of guns.

[Reporter] Were there any gaps in the security plan that were bridged?

[Birri] All matters are moving along. There will be meetings of the Military Council, some of which may be attended by the parties concerned with the mountain security plan. [end recording]

Al-Huss on Bikfayya Talks

NC250807 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Following the end of the Bikfayya talks and answering a question about the Beirut security plan, Minister Salim al-Huss said that the Beirut security plan is ready. The plan's objective is to correct the security situation in Beirut and its suburbs, and is not merely concerned with Army deployment. The Army is present in Beirut and nothing can prevent its deployment and movement in any sector or street in the capital. All that has occurred is that a new political decision was made to consolidate the role of the Army and the Internal Security Forces to carry out their tasks in Beirut and its suburbs by prohibiting any illegal armed appearance or movements and by lifting the political protection of all who carry arms and who commit offenses or transgressions.

Minister Al-Huss added: If we view this decision this time with some confidence and assurance, this is because we made the decision on the basis of new factors in the field, indicating a serious desire for the plan's implementation. These factors include the political will of armed groups to cooperate in implementing the security plan and ensuring its success, and the desire to consolidate the capability of the Army and the security forces to undertake their task. These factors also include the support which fraternal Syria is giving, in view of its influence in Lebanon, to ensure the desired results.

Answering a question about the reopening of the coastal highway, Minister al-Huss said: The security plan for the coastal highway from Al-Madfun to Al-Awwali is almost ready and will be implemented in a few days, following the implementation of the Beirut security plan.

Qulaylat on Security Plan, Return to Beirut

NC242007 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, leader of the Independent Nasirite Movement — Al-Murabitun, has said that what is being rumored about a new security plan is not new. However, we are prompted to ponder it because of our national responsibility of providing security for our kin in Beirut. Qulaylat added: Do not corner us so you will not be cornered. Our patience and steadfastness are attributable to our realization of the dangers of the current phase. [passage indistinct]

Qulaylat asked: Why are security and political plans imposed on western Beirut alone? Why are security plans not tried out in other areas, particularly in the mountain and [word indistinct]? Why is western Beirut shelled whenever differences arise among the government members whenever any topic on the Cabinet agenda is discussed?

In a dialogue with the PRESS news agency, Brother Qulaylat wondered why Al-Murabitun's joining the National Democratic Front should be linked with his return to Beirut. He emphasized that the date of his return will be fixed by Al-Murabitun and by his convictions and personal desire.

On the Al-Naqurah talks Brother Qulaylat said: Israel's actions are governed by its goals and expansionist ambitions. Israel's continued occupation of the Arab lands in defiance of UN Resolution 242 and the Camp David accords are only proof of this.

On the convocation of the PNC in Amman, Brother Qulaylat said: The PNC meeting is taking place in a circle that represents the Arab core of the Camp David regimes.

Reportage on Implementation of Security Plan

Army Urges Cooperation

NC251220 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Statement issued by the Army Command, Guidance Directorate on 25 November]

[Text] In implementation of the Cabinet's decision to consolidate security in greater Beirut, the Army Command has issued its orders to the Beirut Forces Command to adopt strict and necessary measures as of the night of 25-26 November to eliminate barricades and earth barriers, to subdue all offenses, and to commit the offenders to the appropriate judiciary for a decision on their case.

The Army Command hopes that all citizens will fully abide by the laws and regulations to ensure public interest and to allow the Army forces to implement the security plans in various Lebanese areas, particularly in the south.

Amal Members Forsake Arms

NC241230 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] The Amal movement has ordered its members and supporters to not carry arms and not walk around Beirut wearing camouflaged uniforms during the implementation of the security plan, which is due to begin on Sunday. The Amal movement has also ordered that all existing offices be transformed into social services bureaus.

This was contained in a statement issued by the movement's Political Bureau following a meeting held yesterday in the presence of its leader Nabih Birri, during which the Beirut security plan and the Army's deployment along the coastal highway was reviewed.

The statement said the Amal movement is turning over security affairs in West Beirut to the legitimate forces preparatory to ensuring the reopening of the south highway next week, God willing.

Detainees Exchanged

NC260702 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] On the eve of the implementation of the security plan and as a goodwill gesture, the Lebanese Forces and the Amal movement, represented by Dr Jean Ghanim and Ayyub Humayyid, have released several persons. George Ilyas 'Abdallah, Michel al-Kik, Joseph and George Nijm, 'Afif Sallum, Hohn Najjar, and a member of the Zaydan family have been released.

Dr Ghanim handed over the following persons to Humayyid: 'Imad Kammun, 'Abdallah Ma'tuq, Hasan Yusuf Mustafa, Nabih Firghani, Hasan 'Ali Ibrahim, 'Imad al-Darir, Rida al-Dabaq, and Mustafa Nasrallah.

Implementation Begins

NC260557 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] The military command implemented the first phase of the security measures approved by the Cabinet, which provide for the deployment of the Army in greater Beirut, at midnight yesterday.

The Army Command issued a statement expressing its hope that all citizens will abide fully by all laws and regulations, to protect the public interest, and will give the Army the opportunity to continue its implementation of the security plans in the various areas of Lebanon, particularly in the south. The command emphasized that the Army will respond to all violations and will refer the contraveners to the courts.

Army Strengthens Presence

NC260742 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] The Lebanese Army is intensifying its measures to consolidate stability, supress violations, and assert the supremacy of law and order. The implementation of the first phase of the security plan for greater Beirut began at dawn. Armed manifestations have disappeared and the citizens awoke quite relaxed and satisfied with the measures taken, feeling certain that violations will be prevented. They also feel certain that their compliance will lead to the success of the plan.

Meanwhile, the remaining bunkers and roadblocks are being removed. The Army has reinforced its deployment on the airport road, in the Al-Majmah and Riyad al-Sulh squares, and in Sinn al-Fil and the ring. It is setting up both stationary and mobile roadblocks to prevent any violations that might disturb public security and safety.

Fifth Round of Al-Naqurah Talks Held

Military Negotiations Resume

NC261035 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] The first session of the fifth round of the Lebanese-Israeli military negotiations began under UN auspices this morning.

Prior to the session's commencement, Lebanese delegation leader Staff Brigadier General Muhammad al-Hajj said that with UNIFIL's help, the Lebanese Army is the only force capable of controlling the situation on all Lebanese territory up to the international border. He accused the Israeli side of trying to obstruct the security plans and cast doubt on the ability of the Lebanese Army to deploy in Iqlim al-Kharrub and the coastal road. A military source disclosed that the Lebanese side resented the expansion of the powers of the army of southern Lebanon and its deployment up to Al-Naqurah.

It has been learned that the Lebanese delegation has eight maps indicating the areas where the Army and UNIFIL will take up positions, as well as the areas from which Israel will withdraw.

Morning Session Reported

NC261257 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Excerpts] The first session of the fifth round of the Lebanese-Israeli military discussions ended at 1315. Strict security measures were adopted around the UNIFIL command in Ra's al-Naqurah, where the negotiations are taking place under UN auspices. The Israeli chief delegate said: During the previous round, we submitted a specific plan for the deployment of the UNIFIL and Lebanese Army in the northern Belt, from Nahr al-Awwali to Al-Zahrani. We also reviewed Israel's concept of UNIFIL's role in the deployment in areas that the Israelis are to evacuate.

The Israeli chief delegate doubted that the plan for the deployment of the Lebanese Army in Beirut and along the coast will succeed. He said: I personally have my doubts. This deployment was tried more than once in the past, but it always failed. Thus, this does not demonstrate the Lebanese Army's ability.

Brigadier General al-Hajj the Lebanese delegation leader, said that Lebanon's response to the Israeli plan will be forthcoming today. He added: We will clearly answer the Israelis' questions. We will base our answer to Security Council Resolution 425.

The Lebanese chief delegate accused the Israelis of impeding the negotiations, saying that Israel, while seeking to withdraw, links its with withdrawal to impossible security arrangements, making it very difficult to attain. Therefore, Israel seeks to remain where it is by proxy, through armed organizations that are obedient to its orders. Israel also seeks to return to Lebanon whenever it wants, using the pretext of self-defense, to deal with what it believes threatens its security.

The leader of the Lebanese delegation continued: Israel pays lip service to the sovereignty of Lebanon, its Army, and the other legal forces, but it contradicts this in practice by imposing the nature of the role and task of the UNIFIL forces and by refusing to permit the Army to deploy in such areas as Shab'a and Hasbayya, under the pretext that they are close to the border. It also demands that a buffer zone be created between Al-Zahrani and Yanta, and that police and internal security duties be assigned to UNIFIL, while the Army's role be considered auxiliary. It insists on casting doubt on the Army's ability to implement the security arrangements, whereas it is the ability of the Israeli Army that is actually in doubt.

The Israelis consider today's negotiations a waste of time, precluding any progress toward essential matters. The Israelis stressed that Israel's stand is clear and well-understood on all issues about which agreement has been reached with the Lebanese.

Prime Minister Karami Addresses Tripoli Gathering

NC251315 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Excerpts] It was reported from Tripoli that delegations from Tripoli, Al-Kurah, Al-Dinniyah, and 'Akkar called on the office of Prime Minister Rashid Karami to congratulate him on the anniversary of independence day. On this occasion, Prime Minister Karami delivered the following speech:

[Begin recording] We are committed to ensuring the people's tranquillity in the country. We have had enough sufferings; we have paid a high price in nerves, health, funds, business, homes, and areas. Therefore, he who loves this family — and the people — must mobilize to defend the interest of this society and the interest of this city which we all hold in trust.

When we say that the unity of Tripoli, the accord among its citizens, and the implementation of security in it will be the beginning of ensuring security and driving the salvation march in all Lebanon, we mean that this city, with its noble people and its citizens' values, will be in the vanguard as past and present history attests that it is for good, love, and for peace to all the Lebanese.

The implementation of the security plan and the Army's assumption of its full responsibility in all Beirut, which will take place the night of 25-26 November, denotes the will for love and good. It also denotes that the legitimate authority — which stems from the people and the government of national unity and which embodies the hopes of all citizens — portrays the concepts of partnership, national unity, and constant work in the public interest to establish security in Beirut, Tripoli, Al-Biqa', and in the south.

The south is today drawing the attention of all those seeking its liberation, sovereignty, and dignity. The liberation of the south is the national duty of all Lebanese and all the Arabs because the national resistance in the south, West Al-Biqa', and Rashayya has upheld the banner of freedom and has defended national dignity. Ultimately, we are all responsible for the Israeli enemy's withdrawal from this pure territory.

The South's liberation will remain our objective. We will continue to work toward this objective until it is attained soon, God willing.

I have read statements by Peres and other Israeli officials which indicate their ill intentions toward the ongoing negotiations in Al-Naqurah. When he [Peres] holds the Lebanese Government responsibile for the obstruction and the disturbed atmosphere at the Al-Naqurah meetings, and when he says that Lebanese Government members cannot agree among themselves over a unified stand, Peres appears as if he is seeking to pave the way for adopting a particular stand on the negotiations. This propaganda, which he has resorted to in order to shoulder us with the responsibility for his intentions and ideas, is meant to prolong the period that these cherished Lebanese areas are occupied. I tell Peres that we proceed from firm principles and from axioms that we will never cede — Lebanon's full sovereignty, the full withdrawal without any preconditions, and the spread of the state's legitimacy over all the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya.

Our Army is accused of being unable to perform this duty. We will prove to Peres, Israel, and the world that our Army, supported by all the national forces and which is called upon to perform this sacred duty, can carry out the trust because no claim dies as long as there is someone to keep up that claim. [applause]

For the sake of liberating the south, I call on all the sons of Tripoli to unify the ranks, stands, and hearts to please God, his prophet, and the faithful. We are Lebanese and we all have to cooperate for the sake of liberation. Unless Israel withdraws from Lebanon there will be no stability, tranquillity, or return to normalcy. [applause]

I am confident that the people of Tripoli will not hesitate to carry out this mission because it is the mission of our fathers and forefathers who we remembered yesterday on independence day.

Al-Jumayyil, Speaker al-Husayni Discuss South

NC260742 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 26 Oct 84

[Excerpts] President Amin al-Jumayyil last night received Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni on his first traditional visit following his election. The meeting lasted from 1800 to 1945. After the meeting, Speaker al-Husayni said:

[Begin al-Husayni recording] During this meeting we discussed the various current issues by their priority. Foremost among these issues was the issue of the south. Of course when I say the south I mean the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya — all the territories occupied by Israel. There was full agreement on the need to mobilize all our internal and Arab resources. Foremost among Arab resources is Syrian support. Syria has not hesitated to make any effort to help liberate the south.

We also discussed a number of other important issues. We hope to assist the executive authority fulfill its task by carrying out our role of control over the government, as stipulated in the Constitution and in our parliamentary system, and by providing assistance to the government in fulfilling its difficult task.

On the basis of these concepts, I say that the responsibility is collective. We must all cooperate in shouldering this heavy burden. Our homeland has given us a great deal. The time has come for us to give it what it deserves. [end recording]

Mufti Meets Speaker al-Husayni, Premier Karami

NC231623 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1515 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] Mufti of the Republic Shaykh Hasan Khalid called on both Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and Prime Minister Rashid Karami this morning to congratulate them on the occasion of Independence Day. He was accompanied on both visits by a delegation of prominent religious leaders.

Discussions during both meetings centered on the situation in Lebanon and on plans for the introduction of a comprehensive security program for the greater Beirut area. Discussions also touched on the resistance in areas occupied by Israelis and on the need for solidarity of ranks and internal unity in view of important local and regional developments.

In a statement after calling on Prime Minister Karami, the Mufti said that these meetings during the morning had provided opportunity for the exchange of views on ways of restoring peace and prosperity to the country. He expressed hope that efforts exerted by the authorities would be fruitful.

Shams al-Din Returns From Visit to Syria

NC232035 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Islamic Shi'ite Supreme Council, returned to Beirut today after a visit to Damascus, during which he met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Defense Minister Mustafa Talas, as well as with Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, president of the Iranian State Supreme Court, who is currently visiting Damascus.

Phalange Party Leader Favors Dialogue With Syria

NC250823 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Phalange Party leader Dr Elie Karamah has asserted the party's readiness to conduct any dialogue with Syria within the context of mutual respect and dignity. He added that the Christians in southern Lebanon should not feel insecure in the event of any Israeli withdrawal, because the rights of citizens will always be safeguarded in areas that are under the control of the state's army. These remarks came in a statement that Dr Karamah made to the press and which was published today.

In another development, Islamic Unification Movement leader Sa'id Sha'ban has rejected the security plan in Tripoli, adding that the plan must be modified. He believes that there is no need for the Army's presence in Tripoli because there are security forces there which are supposed to maintain security in the town.

Phalangists Celebrate 48th Anniversary

NC251143 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Excerpt] At a rally held in Antilyas today to mark the 48th anniversary of the foundation of the Phalange Party, Deputy Party Leader Dr George Sa'adah delineated the party's principles and its work program as follows:

1. No acceptance of others' hegemony on the freedom of the Lebanese people in organizing their domestic affairs.
2. No wagering on foreign wills. We have the right to exercise our freedom with an independent national will.
3. No conciliation without reforms.
4. No conciliation with anyone or in any field if the Phalangists' dignity and the Lebanese people's security and dignity are not protected.
5. No to partial reforms which are bound to serve this or that side. We want a comprehensive reform which serves the interests of the homeland and the citizen. Sectarian demands are rejected.
6. No to national accord unless all parties stop forcing people to leave their homes because of political reasons. The war of destruction and annihilation has become the main feature of those organizations' principles.

Dr Sa'adah said: Our understanding of the accord and reform stems from our full vigilance of the reality of our party and principles.

Opponents of Yasir 'Arafat Voice Criticism

Resistance Front Criticizes Remarks

NC240634 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance Front has issued a statement in which it replied to Yasir 'Arafat's claims. The statement said that the National Resistance Front, which constitutes the natural revolutionary reply to the Israeli occupation, finds itself compelled to reply to the claims that Yasir 'Arafat made during the meetings of his emaciated PNC in Amman where he demonstrated his failure and defeatism.

The statement says that the defeatists, traitors, capitulationists, and plotters, who deserted their forces during the siege of Beirut and withdrew their troops from the south during the early hours of the invasion, like agents Abu Hazim and Al-Hajj Isma'il, are now bragging and trading in the pure blood of Beirut's steadfast martyrs.

The statement adds that those who sold out the blood of thousands of the Palestinian revolution's martyrs for a handful of dollars and promises from imperialism and its agents in the area, are now trading in the blood of the strugglers of the national resistance front. Moreover, 'Arafat's clique carried out terrorist acts which often obstructed the operations of the front's strugglers.

The statement reiterated that 'Arafat's leadership and his defeatist course have no connection whatsoever to any operation carried out against the Zionist enemy in the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya.

The statement said that 'Arafat is involved in most of the explosions that have taken place in West Beirut against innocent people there.

Shi'ite Leader Criticizes 'Arafat

NC241602 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1510 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] The vice president of the Higher Shi'ite Council, Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, today urged all Lebanese factions to cooperate sincerely with the Syrian initiative in the service of Lebanon. He stressed that Syria was committed to help Lebanon in its liberation and in the restoration of peace.

Shams al-Din was strongly critical of comments made by PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat on the situation in Lebanon and declared that were it not for the methods and practices of the Palestinian resistance in the south, the Israeli invasion might not have occurred. He noted that Palestinian aberrations provided a strong pretext for the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. Shams al-Din spoke out strongly on behalf of the national resistance and declared that this effort should be supported by all Lebanese.

Israeli Helicopter Airport Being Built in South

NC251232 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Our correspondent in the south has reported that an Israeli engineering unit has begun to asphalt the piece of land adjacent to the international highway at the entrance to the Tapline installations in Al-Zahrani. This is in preparation to building a helicopter airport.

The Israeli forces have brought in three flail tanks, which immediately upon arrival started to clear some of the installations set up by the Israeli Forces in their positions in the areas of Sharhabil ibn Hasanah, Tallat Mar Ilyas, and the Al-Awwali crossing point.

The Israeli Forces today began to implement measures to stop vehicles 1 kilometer from the [Al-Awwali] crossing point at the 'Alman al-Shuf junction. The measures also include a thorough search of every vehicle, lasting approximately 2 hours, before being allowed to cross in the direction of Sidon.

On the other hand, the Israeli Forces raided the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp and arrested 10 persons, among whom is Nimr 'Uwayd. They were taken to the Israeli Intelligence Center in Tallat Mar Ilyas for interrogation.

Also in the south, an Israeli position in the Regie Building in Al-Nabatiyah was attacked with rockets at dawn today. The attack caused casualties among the Israeli soldiers.

Monte Carlo: Rif'at al-Asad Reportedly Returns

JN260652 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] Reports have mentioned that Rif'at al-Asad, Syrian vice president and President Hafiz al-Asad's brother, embarked on a special Syrian Airlines plane a short while before midnight, and that the plane left Orly Airport in Paris for Damascus. These reports add that Rif'at al-Asad probably arrived in Damascus this morning, after a 6-month absence.

Mitterrand Arrives, Meets With Al-Asad

JN261427 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] At the invitation of President Hafiz al-Asad, French President Francois Mitterrand arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a 3-day visit to Syria. Presidents al-Asad and Mitterrand held a meeting. The meeting was attended by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Ba'th Party; Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the prime minister; and Faruq al-Shar', the foreign minister. On the French side, the meeting was attended by External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson and Culture Minister Jack Lang.

Libya's Al-Turayki Concludes Visit, Leaves Damascus

JN231601 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] Damascus — Dr 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the Libyan General People's Committee, left Damascus today. He was seen of at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', the Libyan charge d'affaires in Damascus, and members of the Libyan Bureau in Damascus.

Foreign Minister Confers With PDRY Counterpart

JN251911 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali this evening. The meeting was attended by 'Isam al-Na'ib assistant foreign minister, and Husayn Hatim, chief of the Arab homeland desk at the Foreign Ministry. The talks revolved around the current Arab situation and ways to confront the capitulatory schemes in the Arab region.

Officials Comment on Amman PNC Session

Talas Condemns Amman Council

JN251903 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Latakia — Under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, and within the framework of our country's celebrations of the 14th anniversary of the Corrective Movement, a new group of Navy Academy students graduated today. General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, represented the president.

Gen Talas delivered a speech in which he conveyed President al-Asad's greetings to the graduating students. He said: Your graduation comes while our masses are celebrating the 14th anniversary of the victorious Corrective Movement under President Hafiz al-Asad — the movement which prepared for the glorious war of October, during which our valiant Army and naval forces wrote shining pages of heroism and redemption.

Gen Talas explained the current situation in our region. He said: 'Arafat's farce, taking place in Amman these days, will not go unpunished. This farce faces comprehensive rejection by the Palestinian resistance factions and the Arab Palestinian masses, and also by the Arabs generally. As Syria has always stood on the side of the Arab Palestinian people and their decisive cause, we will stand now in the face of this new 'Arafatist conspiracy. Syria will block the way of all reactionaries trying to liquidate the Palestine cause.

Al-Zu'bi Raps PNC Session

JN251951 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Damascus — The People's Assembly has denounced 'Arafat's treasonous step of holding his forged divisonist council in Amman. The People's Assembly condemned this conspiracy, aimed at fragmenting the unity of the Palestinian struggle, people, and the PLO.

The Assembly stressed that Syria, under President Hafiz al-Asad, is determined to continue its principled, pan-Arab, militant course, to confront all the capitulatory and liquidatory designs, and to pursue our people's objective of liberating the occupied Arab territories and restoring the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination, repatriation, and the establishment of their independent state on their homeland's soil.

The People's Assembly held a session this evening under People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi. A number of ministers also attended. At the beginning of the session, the People's Assembly members' questions were read and referred to the competent authorities through the Council of Ministers. The draft bills presented by the president of the Republic were also read.

Mahmud al-Zu'bi spoke about the 'Arafat-Husayn-Saddam conspiracy against our Arab nation. He said that the aim of this conspiracy is to liquidate the Arab's great cause and the axis of their struggle in their contemporary history — the Palestine question, a cause of people, homeland, existence, and destiny. He added that this conspiracy has been hatched through lies, forgery, and distortion in a manner similar to the Zionist forgery of history and its distortion of events.

He stressed that our Palestinian Arab people's nationalist and progressive forces have rejected all those who betrayed their sacred cause, traded on their martyrs' blood, sold their struggle, and knelt to their enemies and murderers. He said: Our Palestinian people's sons have rejected 'Arafat who replaced the will of struggle, liberation, repatriation, and self-determination with treason and defeat, and placed the Palestinian people's destiny and existence in the hands of Husayn, the murderer and executioner of our people in Black September, and before and after Black September.

Al-Zu'bi noted what had happened at the opening session of 'Arafat's comedy council. He said: The past enemies have embraced each other [words indistinct]. King Husayn, the murderer of the Palestinian people, and 'Arafat, the traitor, have embraced each other. They embodied treason and agentry at the podium, distorted facts shamelessly, and bragged about their forged acrobatic heroism which is full of plots against Arabism and betrayal to its most sacred issues and objectives.

Al-Zu'bi said: It is not strange that 'Arafat [words indistinct] Syria, its people, and martyrs — Syria which has willingly offered more martyrs than all the Arab countries.

Concluding, the People's Assembly speaker said: Let our determination urge us and our people to pursue the militant march under struggler President Hafiz al-Asad and our Arab Socialist Ba'th Party until victory and our objectives of unity, freedom, and socialism are achieved.

Sides Prepare To Resume Talks; Course Reviewed

TA260528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] The negotiations between the Israeli and Lebanese military delegations will resume in Al-Naqurah this morning. The Israeli delegation will reiterate its determined stand that it will not concede on the deployment of UNIFIL south of the Al-Awwali River and the deployment of the army of southern Lebanon in the strip which will be evacuated by the IDF in the south. Security sources told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that Israel will warn the Lebanese representatives that Israel could take unilateral measures if progress is not made.

No Progress Reported

TA261108 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1020 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] A few minutes ago the military spokesman of the Lebanese delegation to the Al-Naqurah talks emerged from the meeting and made harsh accusations against Israel. He said that there is no progress in the talks. We go to our military correspondent in Al-Naqurah, Shmu'el Tal.

[Tal] As noted, the Lebanese military spokesman emerged from the talks a few minutes ago and made a harsh statement. Israel, he said, is trying to foil the talks. No more and no less. Israel, he said, is raising obstacles: It is demanding guarantees in return for its withdrawal, and this cannot be fulfilled. Israel, in fact, is demanding that it remain in southern Lebanon through representatives and armed organizations acting in accordance with Israel's instructions. He did not specify the organizations by name.

He also said that Israel's recognition of Lebanon's sovereignty is only for appearance's sake. Israel opposes deployment in Hasbayya and Shab'a in southern Lebanon because it wants, in fact, an area clear of armed forces north of its borders, and on certain points along the Al-Awwali River, the Al-Zahrani River and Al-Baruk. In this manner, he says, Israel will turn the command over this area to UNIFIL and the territorial brigade which follows its orders.

The Lebanese spokesman sees these measures as an Israeli design to move its northern border more to the north to the Al-Awwali, but what makes the Lebanese more angry than anything else are the Israeli statements on doubts raised here concerning the capability of the Lebanese Army as an Army at all. The IDF should have doubts about its own capability, the angry Lebanese spokesman said.

We have here Lieutenant Colonel Yona Gazit. We will ask him if this attitude also arouses the anger of the Israeli delegation.

[Gazit] No, attitudes do not arouse our anger.

[Tal] To what avail is that for the Lebanese?

[Gazit] The radio is probably an important device for the Lebanese public, or for the Lebanese Government, and this probably serves them well. It is a fact that they have devoted the whole morning to this.

[Tal] One last question: Do you expect a crisis in the talks in the next few hours?

[Gazit] No, I have no reason to believe that we are heading for a crisis. Again, from the experience of the previous talks — on top of the 2 or 3 hours on their views and our answers and our reaction — on top of this they return to the core of the matter and continue talking about practical matters. I suppose, from my experience, that this is what will also happen today.

Gilbo'a Raps Procrastination

TA261244 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] We will now talk with Brigadier General 'Amos Gilbo'a, head of the Israeli delegation to the Al-Naqurah talks, who undiplomatically stated: I have had enough of the broken record played by the head of the Lebanese delegation. He believes that the Lebanese are wasting time.

Our correspondent Shmu'el Tal talked with Brig Gen Gilbo'a.

[Begin recording] [Tal] Brig Gen Gilbo'a, the Lebanese spokesman emerged from the talks this morning accusing Israel of trying to foil the talks. What is your opinion on this?

[Gilbo'a] Again, during the talks one of the generals repeated the old record which he repeats at each session, reading from a document that we are foiling the talks, that we are not forthcoming toward them, etcetera. I told him, as we say in simple Hebrew, that I have had enough of this.

[Tal] Did you speak Hebrew with him?

[Gilbo'a] We did not speak in Hebrew. I told him in very clear, and in my opinion, correct English, that we, the Israelis, every time submit practical proposals to make progress. They reject them every time, and start accusing us of foiling the talks.

[Tal] What kind of talks are these, if they proceed as you have termed it, as an old record?

[Gilbo'a] First, we must understand — I have experience in dealing with the Lebanese — that the Lebanese conduct part of the talks through the radio. I have repeated several times to General al-Hajj: Stop this. As long as you continue holding talks through the radio, you will not make any progress.

[Tal] Do these warnings make an impression on him? Or is he only interested in following the guidelines which he receives from Beirut?

[Gilbo'a] I suppose that, as a good military man, he is first of all following the instructions he has received. At the same time, I have the impression — I am not sure of it — that he is listening to what I have to say.

[Tal] Other accusations we heard today from Lebanese spokesmen are that Israel wants to expand its territory and actually move its border to the north, that this emerges from Israel's demands. They say that Israel wants to leave its representatives in the form of local armed forces which follow Israel's orders. They did not mention the names of these forces. How do you interpret these Lebanese accusations?

[Gilbo'a] That is simple. The Lebanese hear the principles which we submit to them and distort them. I suppose that this is for the sake of the public. [interview interrupted by newscast][end recording]

Lebanese Propose Arrangements

TA261334 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1325 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] A development has been reported in the Al-Naqurah talks. The Lebanese delegation raised a proposal for security arrangements on two levels: one at the area of the Israeli-Lebanese international border; and the other in all the other areas of southern Lebanon. The Lebanese emphasize that in the areas adjacent to the border, there will be strict military arrangements. In the other areas fewer forces will be deployed. So far no Israeli answer has been given to these proposals, which constitute a change in the negotiations. Our correspondent Nitzan Horowitz gave us this report, and he will continue to bring us updates from Al-Naqurah.

Peres: IDF To Withdraw Regardless of Agreement

TA250949 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
25 Nov 84 p 3

[Dorit Gefen report]

[Excerpt] In a closed meeting with a large group of left-wing writers, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said that he is sticking to his campaign promise to withdraw the IDF from Lebanon within 10 months after the establishment of the government. According to Peres, this will indeed take place either with half an agreement or no agreement at all.

Relations With South Lebanese Deteriorating

TA251019 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
25 Nov 84 p 4

[Yehuda Tzur report]

[Text] In the wake of the Al-Naqurah talks, Israeli representatives in southern Lebanon have recently run into difficulties in their attempts to make contact with representatives of the various communities there.

The uncertainty in southern Lebanon over the future of the region as a result of the Al-Naqurah talks and a possible IDF withdrawal are leading many to cut their ties with Israeli representatives.

It has been learned that Israelis who up until recently had been warmly welcomed by Shi'ite or Christian representatives in various areas of southern Lebanon are now accorded a cool reception.

In many cases those who have cooperated with Israel are afraid of continuing contacts with it, and many of the residents rarely meet with Israelis now.

Notables who had not feared open contacts with the Israeli authorities despite all pressures, are now reluctant to receive Israeli representatives in their homes in broad daylight.

In any case, southern Lebanese village leaders are demanding that Israeli representatives give them official categorical promises about the future of the villages and villagers. These leaders demand that Israel take responsibility for the future of the area, as a condition for continued contacts with it. The Israeli representatives informed the village leaders in what was once known as Haddadland, that regardless of the arrangements achieved in Al-Naqurah, Israel will continue to maintain a presence in the area close to the Israeli border. The Israelis explained to their interlocutors that Israel will not allow hostile elements to entrench themselves in areas near the border which are vital to Israel's security, and that this will obviously call for uninterrupted links with the Shi'ite and Christian residents in the Haddadland area.

Leaders, Press Continue Comment on PNC Session

Shamir: Nothing New

TA240949 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0805 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Eytan Almog "upon his return from the United States this week;" place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Almog] Mr Vice Prime Minister, let us begin with political issues. We are now witnessing the convening of the PNC under Jordan's aegis. In fact, the question that comes to mind is whether what is now happening in Jordan revives the debate on the Jordanian option?

[Shamir] In my opinion, there is nothing new in this PNC session except for its location; it is meeting for the first time in Amman. I do not think that we view this meeting with any sympathy. This brings closer to Jordan, Israel, and the Arabs of Judaea and Samaria the voice of the PLO terrorist organization. Other than that, I do not see anything likely to revive the notions about the feasibility of the so-called Jordanian option.

[Almog] This, despite the fact that the very fact of the meeting is — to put it bluntly — being held under Husayn's thumb, the same Husayn who at one time massacred the Palestinians and PLO members.

[Shamir] I do not know who is under whose thumb, who the victor is and who is surrendering, who the influencing factor is and who is being influenced. In any event, I do not think that anybody in

Israel views this excessive rapprochement between Husayn and 'Arafat sympathetically.

[Almog] Not even when Husayn is sending out signals in the spirit of 'territory in exchange for peace?'

[Shamir] Look, I am not and I have never been thrilled by this slogan. After all, the way Husayn sees it, this means a total withdrawal to the 1967 lines. The way 'Arafat interprets it, this is the first stage on the way to the annihilation of the State of Israel.

[Almog] If Husayn and Jordan show a willingness to compromise — not a total withdrawal but a partial one — what would happen then?

[Shamir] This is a big question. Obviously, many people in Israel — among a certain party and political camp in Israel — hope for some such compromise formula, a formula which has not yet come up and which I seriously doubt will ever come up. If such a formula were raised, however, there would certainly be a very sharp argument in Israel over how to deal with this compromise proposal.

[Almog] Let us try and deal with this argument. Will this argument be on substance and content or whether there is anything at all to talk about?

[Shamir] Well, the argument will be over Zionism, the fate of Eretz Yisra'el, the link between the Israeli people and Eretz Yisra'el, and the security of the State of Israel. This is a very old argument which has so far been confined to our own ranks. No Arab element — in the past or even now — suggested such a compromise. What is happening in Amman today, in my opinion, does not herald the arrival of this compromise proposal.

[Almog] Let us assume that such a proposal is raised and an argument erupts. Would such an argument break up the national unity government?

[Shamir] This might very well be the case. After all, we established the national unity government based on the assumption that we would not be expected to take part in such an argument in the near future. This was our political assessment and I think that it still holds true.

[Almog] With your permission, we will now turn to the question of Lebanon and the talks at Al-Naqurah. In fact, we are once again witnessing the same phenomenon that took place during the tenure of the previous Cabinet led by you, that there is no partner to talk to in Lebanon. Hence, the question that may arise is: Why should we not pull out at once?

[Shamir] It is always better to have an agreement. Since one of our goals is to establish security arrangements on our border with Lebanon, it is better to conclude these arrangements with somebody and it is better to base them on cooperation between us and somebody else. That is why we are trying our best to reach an agreement, either with Lebanon or somebody else.

[Almog] That somebody else is Syria?

[Shamir] Perhaps.

[Almog] What kind of arrangement would you strive to reach with Syria? An arrangement involving the final division of Lebanon between the two countries or one involving the division of spheres of influence? What kind of arrangement do you want?

[Shamir] Since we have not yet received any signal that Syria is prepared to discuss such a matter, I do not think it would be wise for us to debate the specifics of this issue over the radio. I do not think that this would increase the chances for such an arrangement. This is why I do not want to say anything about the kind of arrangement we would seek with Syria just now. We will wait and see what Syria intends to do and what — if at all — it thinks about some sort of arrangement with Israel.

[Almog] Regarding Egypt and the question of the cold peace, it seems to me that in the framework of the open bridges policy embraced at the time by the late Moshe Dayan, that we have been getting more from Jordan than from Egypt and the cold peace. What have we actually gained?

[Shamir] Well, even today we cannot say that our relations with Egypt resemble relations prior to the signing of the peace treaty. Still, this should not be taken lightly. The largest Arab country signing a peace treaty with Israel is a significant and revolutionary development, even if Egypt still does not completely implement it and even if there are still difficulties and obstacles.

[Almog] Do you see any chances for a change?

[Shamir] We knew from the outset that full and complete peace would not come immediately after the signing of the treaty. This is a process. This is a complex, deep, and complicated conflict which must be resolved through an evolutionary process. The signing of the treaty should have been a broad, very promising, and auspicious preamble to a new chapter of peaceful life. However, this must develop and progress gradually. To our regret, this process stopped halfway, perhaps due to the tragic disappearance of Al-Sadat. However, I think one should not give up hope that this process may once again resume its course. I definitely believe that the day will come when there will be absolute peace between us and Egypt.

[Almog] This peace is actually nonexistent now.

[Shamir] Absolute peace does not exist. Peace exists because there is no war and because there are contacts, open borders; Israeli tourists travel to Egypt and we have an embassy there. There are other elements that characterize this peace as well. However, this peace is not full and complete and does not involve a full normalization of relations which we want and expect to achieve.

[Almog] Generally speaking, it seems that our relations with the Arab countries surrounding us may have encouraged the Soviet Union to grope toward an attempt to resume relations with us — there may have been signs to this effect. Am I wrong?

[Shamir] I do not think there is a connection. The Soviet Union has its own policy in the Middle East. It wants to be an active and involved participant in all the processes taking place in our region, and it certainly wants to participate in an important process involving peace between Israel and the Arab countries. The Soviet Union is not a party to the Camp David process and this is why it is opposed to it.

[Almog] What will happen regarding relations between us and the Soviet Union? Do you foresee a resumption of relations in the near future?

[Shamir] It is hard to predict because none of this depends on us but on the Soviet Union. At this stage, it is impossible to see any chance for a serious change in the near future. Based on what Gromyko told me in our last meeting, I cannot predict any significant change in our relations in the near future.

[Almog] Does the fact that we supply military know-how and equipment to the PRC contribute to this?

[Shamir] I do not know whether we supply know-how and equipment to the PRC. I hear it from you and I have read rumors about it in the press. However, this is an issue that cannot be discussed.

[Almog] Does that mean the photographs of the military parade in Beijing showing Israeli 105-mm cannons mounted on Soviet-made tanks are phony or what?

[Shamir] I have learned to distrust many of the reports published in the international press.

[Almog] With your permission, perhaps we should turn to what is happening in your own party. Were you not hurt when your movement appointed you acting chairman of the Herut movement?

[Shamir] That was my own proposal. I proposed that an acting chairman of the Herut Executive be elected because Menahem Begin is still serving as chairman and has not resigned, although he is not active in this post at present. This is why I suggested to my colleagues that we elect an acting chairman for the executive, hoping that the chairman would one day resume his duties.

[Almog] Even if you realize that not all the streams within your movement accept your leadership?

[Shamir] That is totally unrelated. Those who elected me acting chairman knew they were choosing me for a job calling for the daily administration of the movement's affairs.

[Text] [Almog] How do you feel when Labor Minister Moshe Qatzav and Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i bitterly and brutally quarrel at the Cabinet table in the presence of Cabinet ministers who are not Likud members? Does this not tarnish the prestige of the Herut movement and the Likud?

[Shamir] I am not happy about it. I do not think there should be any vociferous and sharp arguments at the Cabinet table at all. Of course I feel uneasy when such arguments erupt between ministers who are Likud members. However, one must understand and take into consideration that such confrontations at times stem from genuine differences of opinion about vital problems in our political life. These people — ministers are also human — care a great deal about this and at times use abusive language. I would suggest to my friends that they refrain from using abusive language and stick to the point. However, such occurrences happen occasionally.

[Almog] Is this not a recurrence of the well-known malfunctioning of the government?

[Shamir] No, there is no connection whatsoever. The meaning of the word malfunctioning as it has come to be known in Israeli jargon is lack of performance; in other words, that the government makes decisions but these are not implemented. As a rule, one can argue and raise differences of opinion around the Cabinet table as the ministers see fit. However, once a decision is made it must be implemented by one and all.

[Almog] Namely, I assume that you are generally pleased with the performance of Shim'on Peres as prime minister?

[Shamir] Generally speaking, I think that the government has so far carried out its duties.

[Almog] What about my question?

[Shamir] Well, I think I did answer it.

Shamir Comments Lauded

TA251049 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 25 Nov 84 p 8

[Editorial: "Without Illusions"]

[Text] Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir acted correctly yesterday when he dispelled the illusions of those following the proceedings of the PNC session in Amman.

Although the government headed by Shim'on Peres may try and look for new channels to achieve what the Alignment has for years been calling "the Jordanian option," it is highly inconceivable that such moves — whether assisted by Washington or not — will yield any practical results. We did not need the explanations of the tourism minister (!) — who for some reason also reacted to the speeches by 'Arafat and King Husayn — to realize that the latter two are not exactly looking after Israel's well-being in their declarations about what is happening west of the Jordan River.

Those who expected — and there were some — "moderate" declarations by the leader of the disintegrating PLO were probably disappointed. After all, he once again spoke about "the Palestinian homeland" as if Israel were still an ephemeral occurrence. Except for different synonyms, the bottom line is that there was no big difference between 'Arafat's speech at the end of the week in Amman and the speeches of PLO founder Ahmad al-Shuqayri, a native of 'Akko, about throwing the Jews into the sea. It is the same thing but in a different wrapping, and not even Husayn's kisses and embraces could provide it with a younger, fresher, and more innovative image.

Therefore, we would be well advised to stop entertaining these illusions as soon as possible. We may or may not be headed for a new war shortly. A renewed wave of terrorist attacks may or may not lie in store for us. Either way, and despite Jordan's and some PLO leaders' play on words and glances at Cairo, as long as they do not produce a leader who can follow in Al-Sadat's footsteps and fully recognize Israel and its right to exist, there is no room for pinning hopes on unfounded "options" which have been pouring down on us like the rain of the last few weeks.

Correspondent in Amman Reports

TA251039 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 25 Nov 84 p 1

[Daniyel Dagan "exclusive" report from Europe]

[Text] Bonn — "The attitude toward me is excellent," Israeli correspondent Amnon Kapeliuk said in a talk with *HA'ARETZ* yesterday. "I am the center of attention here; one may say I am almost a star. I have shaken hands with hundreds of people from nearly every Arab country, except Syria and Libya, of course."

In a telephone conversation from his hotel in Amman, Kapeliuk said that in his opinion the reception he has been accorded has a significance going beyond the well-known "oriental courtesy." Kapeliuk stressed that each one of the conference participants knows he is an Israeli. Kapeliuk said: "I entered Jordan with a foreign passport indeed, but as an Israeli first and foremost. That was clear to the Jordanian authorities who are extending their fullest aid to me. I transmit reports on telephone via Europe. Everyone around me is helping me with my work as much as possible."

Kapeliuk said he had talked with a Jordanian official whose name he refused to disclose. On his talks with PLO people, he said that the organization's leadership is not willing to follow the Jordanian path which, in his opinion, means the convening of an international conference to discuss a solution to the Israeli-Arab conflict. Asked whether he feels he is in a Palestinian state, Kapeliuk answered: "Everyone knows that 50 percent of the Jordanian population is Palestinian, but I am clearly in Jordan."

Kapeliuk added that he initially assumed he would be restricted to dealing with Palestinian affairs in Amman. However, "the situation is totally different, and this calls for an explanation. I would not have come here if the authorities had not wanted me to come as an Israeli." Amnon Kapeliuk is reporting from Amman for *YEDI'OT AHARONOT*.

5 Attend Conference

TA241225 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Israeli correspondent Amnon Kapeliuk is currently in Amman to cover the deliberations of the PNC. This was reported last night on Jordanian television. The presence of Kapeliuk in the Jordanian capital was disclosed in an interview with an Israeli leftist, Uri Davis, who is also there. According to Davis, Ilan Halevi — who so far as is known, has joined the PLO's ranks — and two other Israeli Arabs are also staying in Amman.

Knesset Member Gid'on Gadot of the Likud has called on the prime minister to revoke the Israeli passports of Kapeliuk and Davis and the other Israelis currently staying in Amman. He has also called for revoking Kapeliuk's Israeli press card.

However, the director of the GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE, Yisra'el Peleg, differs with Gadot and believes the Israeli correspondents should be allowed freedom of movement and expression.

Sharaf, 'Arafat Quoted

TA261006 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 26 Nov 84 pp 1, 10

[Dr Amnon Kapeliuk report from Amman]

[Excerpt] "I will publish your remarks in the Israeli paper *YEDI'OT AHARONOT*," I told Jordanian Information Minister Mrs Layla Sharaf at the end of our conversation during the PNC (the PLO's parliament) session which is currently taking place in Amman. "Please do," Mrs Sharaf replied.

The Jordanian information minister is a nice and pleasant woman. She is of Lebanese Druze origin and the widow of a former Jordanian prime minister. We spoke in French, one of the six languages she is fluent in. She is now learning a seventh language, Hebrew. In our meeting, Layla Sharaf rejected the argument raised by Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee Chairman Abba Eban that "there is nothing new in the PNC's speeches." The information minister said: "Before making any comments, Mr Eban would have been well-advised to examine the king's initiative thoroughly."

"We are used to having Israeli leaders foil every peace initiative and constantly depicting the Arabs as warmongers. However, this Israeli approach will not make us budge from our path, and we will continue our search for a just and lasting peace," Mrs Sharaf added.

PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, whom I met on Saturday night at the end of the PNC's evening session, also commented on Israeli declarations dismissing the PNC meeting. "Israel may say whatever it wants, but for the Palestinian people the PNC meeting is a new starting point no less important than the chapter of armed struggle. This time, we will proceed according to our own interests without giving in to anybody. We will yet surprise many people." Which direction will your surprise take, I asked him. 'Arafat replied: Be patient.

Further Press Comment

TA250813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 25 Nov 84

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *HA'ARETZ* says that King Husayn's address to the PNC at this juncture poses more of a challenge to the PLO than to Israel. Yitzhaq Shamir should not have used this speech to bicker with the Alignment. The press must now center its attention on the question of what the PNC's reaction will be to the challenge posed by King Husayn, who said that a just political settlement must be based on UN Resolution 242. Judging by 'Arafat's speech, there is no chance of the PNC meeting Husayn halfway.

HATZOFE writes that there is no room for optimism that a change has, as it were, occurred in the Middle East with the convening of the PLO's executive in Amman. The PLO and Jordan are not saying anything new. There is no need for a special Knesset debate on the PLO's peace signals. Any such debate might divert attention from Israel's real problems.

At the same time, it might play into the hands of Israel's ill-wishers who want to portray their rattling saber as an olive branch and to depict peace-seeking Israel as a warmonger. We should not rush to draw conclusions, but rather assess developments realistically and not get dragged into the net of the vociferous propagandists who are inadvertently doing the PLO's job.

DAVAR says there is something new in King Husayn's formula of territories in exchange for peace, which becomes more significant when one considers the forum it was raised in. In any event, this formula does not contradict the spirit of Resolution 242, and it is even doubtful that it came as a surprise to the PLO leaders. The possibility should not be ruled out that a strong bloc of pro-Western Arab countries will rally around this formula, which may become a lever for reviving U.S. efforts to promote the peace process during Reagan's second term. This possibility entails domestic political risks for Israel as well as a challenge and an opportunity.

For these two reasons and from whatever point of view one looks at it, it would be wrong to dismiss the PNC session with trivial words such as 'There is nothing new.'

HAMODI'A believes that by leaving the decision to the PLO, Husayn relinquished what appeared to be a Jordanian option — a notion that was not only entertained by leftist circles in Israel. Now that the Jordanian option has gone by the wayside, Israel can only prepare itself for what might happen if 'Arafat tries to carry out his designs to step up terrorism against Israel and southern Lebanon.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes it had been expected that the prime minister would respond to Husayn's challenge by suggesting that the king begin a peace initiative at once based on UN Security Council Resolution 242. However, such a proposal was not raised, perhaps because it would have aroused anger and threats by the Likud to quit the government. Trapped by the paralyzing framework of national unity, the Labor Party minister opted for reneging on their platform and ideology rather than risk a confrontation inside the government.

THE JERUSALEM POST says there are no signs that Husayn is, for the moment at least, closer than he was 2 years ago to embarking on the kind of serious peace initiative that appears to have aroused such great hopes and such great fears among Israelis over the weekend. We remain, therefore, where we were, arguing among ourselves. Only this time, we were provoked by wholly irrelevant reasons.

U.S. Officials Disappointed

JN260947 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World
0530 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] U.S. Administration officials have expressed disappointment at the reaction of Yitzhaq Shamir, acting prime minister and foreign minister, to statements King Husayn of Jordan made during the PNC session currently convening in Amman.

In a statement to our correspondent in Washington, these officials said that the United States will not reply officially to Shamir's statements and will wait to receive the full text of his remarks, particularly those dealing with UN Security Council Resolution 242, and the possibility of Israel's accepting the idea of land in exchange for peace, as King Husayn has proposed.

West Bank Support for 'Arafat Reported

TA251027 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
25 Nov 84 p 18

[Pinhas 'Inbari report]

[Text] About 10 petitions of support have recently been sent to the PNC in Amman from notables and institutions in the territories. Some of them have been read to the PNC participants, including a recorded greeting by deposed Ramallah Mayor Karim Khalaf, which was loudly applauded during the PNC session. The PNC supporters include deposed Gaza Mayor Rashad al-Shawwa, the Supreme Muslim Council, and its leader Sa'd al-Din al-'Alami. Our correspondent notes that Jordanian and PLO supporters sent separate petitions.

The head of the Ramallah Area Village League, Riyad al-Khatib, said that he would support Yasir 'Arafat's policy if he amends some of the clauses of the Palestinian Charter and recognizes Israel's right to exist as a sovereign state.

Our correspondent notes that the area village leagues are trying to reorganize in light of the developments in the Palestinian arena, but the Civilian Administration informed them it does not take a favorable view of their renewed activity and that they should concentrate on village affairs rather than politics.

'Arafat Support Growing

TA261046 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 26 Nov 84 p 1

[Dani Rubinstein report]

[Text] A rally of support for 'Arafat and the PNC session in Amman was held in Hebron University yesterday.

There has been mounting pressure in the territories to support 'Arafat. In its wake, the former mayor of Al-Birah, Ibrahim al-Tawil, has also expressed his support, although he had previously had reservations about 'Arafat. It should be noted that Al-Tawil followed in the footsteps of the deposed mayor of Ramallah, Karim Khalaf, who recanted his earlier denunciation of 'Arafat and the PNC session and issued a statement of support.

The PNC session in Amman has disrupted studies in the territories and many schools have shut down.

'Arafat Opposition Noted

TA251217 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 25 Nov 84 p 13

[Roni Shaqed article: "The Jordanian Television Broadcasts Have Emptied the Streets of Demonstrators"]

[Excerpts] The PNC deliberations have been transmitted directly into the homes of residents of the territories. Jordanian television, which carries daily live broadcasts of the PNC discussions, has emptied the streets in East Jerusalem and the West Bank of pedestrians. The demonstrations and disturbances also immediately stopped after the opening of the PNC deliberations in Jordan. The residents of the territories are busy: They are watching television, listening to the radio, and commenting on the speakers' remarks.

"We have been reborn," Dr Hatim Abu Ghazalah, a Nabulus politician who is considered an 'Arafat supporter. "The split in the PLO ranks is a historic one. We Palestinians have not been able to adopt a uniform position. Many organizations pulled the Palestinian cart in different directions. Now we think that the PLO has a guiding hand."

Dr Abu Ghazalah is trying to compare developments in the PLO today to the disagreements in the Zionist Congress in the past which led to the withdrawal of the revisionists from that congress.

"From now on," he said, "the strong central group led by 'Arafat will act to solve the problem, free of the pressures of the left."

Black flags, signifying mourning, were flown in the areas of Bethlehem, Ramallah, and the refugee camps, where there are concentrations of opponents to the convening of the PNC in general, and to 'Arafat's acceptance of the Jordanian king's protection, in particular. The *AL-MITHAQ* paper, which is the mouthpiece of the Rejectionist Front in the West Bank, came out on the day of the PNC opening with a black headline, heralding for its readers: "A New Black Day for the Palestinians." The paper condemned 'Arafat and highlighted denunctions by organizations and notables which are opposed to 'Arafat's policy.

The car of Dr Sufyan al-Khatib, the brother of *AL-MITHAQ*'s owner, was set on fire Friday night. Dr Al-Khatib is considered an opponent of 'Arafat. He was detained in Jordan 7 months ago due to his pro-Syrian stance and his support for Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Mughara].

His burned car can be added to the long list of cars damaged due to the political views of their owners, including the cars of deposed Ramallah Mayor Karim Khalaf and Raymonda al-Tawil.

A number of personages from the Bethlehem area, including Mayor Ilyas Frayj, preferred to keep quiet. The threats telephoned to their homes made them try to evade the press.

The leftists in the West Bank are happy about the broadcasts of Jordanian television carried live directly from the PNC convention hall. "This is a good show, of course;" they say, "when there are entertaining programs on television the streets are always empty naturally, but this live broadcast also exposes 'Arafat for what he truly is." The opponents of 'Arafat highlight the new links now being formed between "the murderer of the Palestinian people," namely Husayn, and his former enemy who has now become his ally.

Security sources believe that due to the tactical rapprochement between the Fatah people and the pro-Jordanian bloc, the left in the territories will weaken. "The PNC session will lead to the administrative and financial cut-off of the leftists, and their status will deteriorate," a senior-level security source said.

The walls of houses in the streets of the main West Bank towns have in recent nights been covered with both anti- and pro-'Arafat slogans. Those belonging to the pro-Jordan and pro-'Arafat bloc circulated two petitions throughout the territories and sent them off to Jordan. 'Arafat's opponents obtained the signatures of 400 people on a petition of their own, calling for the cancellation of the PNC's deliberations and "uniting ranks in the PLO organization in a democratic manner." Security sources dealing with Arabs in the territories noted that those signing the critical petitions are usually people who carry much weight and are more influential than those signing the petitions supporting 'Arafat, which contained names which are almost completely unfamiliar.

MAPAM Leader Urges Peres To Respond to Husayn

TA251149 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 25 Nov 84 pp 1, 2

[Excerpt] "Husayn's declaration is a move to open a political process," Knesset Member Victor Shem-Tov, MAPAM's secretary general and a member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, said in a lecture before MAPAM's European Council meeting under way in Paris.

Shem-Tov said that Prime Minister Shim'on Peres must take the initiative and put the Jordanian king and the Palestinians to the test; he must publicly invite the parties to negotiations on the basis of Resolution 242, without preconditions, as well as agree in principle to the convening of an international conference on peace in the Middle East, at some point.

Peres on Herut Role in Talks With Husayn

TA261056 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 26 Nov 84 pp 1, 2

[Yosi Melman and 'Aliza Wallach report]

[Excerpt] "I am prepared to enter negotiations with King Husayn without any preconditions," the prime minister stated at the controversial meeting with intellectuals and writers on Saturday night. What if the king agrees to hold talks, the prime minister was asked. "We will talk to him then," he replied. And what will then happen with the Likud, he was further queried. "If Herut joins in, that is all right; and if it does not, that is tough luck," Shim'on Peres emphasized, reinforcing his remarks with gesticulations of the hand.

The meeting, which lasted 2 hours, was held in a good atmosphere amid praise for Shim'on Peres. Among other things, the prime minister made reference to the settlements. He noted that no new settlements have been established since the foundation of the national unity government. Asked about the new climate prevailing in the nation, Peres stressed: "The level of separatism and hatred has dropped and there is more sanity."

Cabinet Session on Defense Budget Cuts Ends

TA251231 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i has said that defense budget cuts are inevitable. Minister Sharir has said that before anyone cuts the number of tanks and airplanes, one should cut nonmilitary excesses. The Cabinet session held at the General Staff Headquarters ended a few minutes ago. Minister Qatzav told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that a tough debate had taken place and that the briefing given to the ministers should lead to serious thought about a real cut, the implications of which cannot yet be assessed. Qatzav said that the order of priorities and the policy should be decided first, before cuts are made. The defense budget cuts will be finalized at the next Cabinet session.

The ministers have already been summoned to another session on Friday which will apparently be dedicated to finalizing the state budget cuts following deliberations expected to last through this week. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik notes that the prime minister has stepped up the pace of consultations because experts are united in their opinion that the cuts should be made while the package deal is still in effect. The health and welfare ministers will appear before the four-member ministerial committee on budget cuts to discuss the budgets of their ministries. The education minister will appear before the committee on Tuesday and the housing minister will address it on Thursday.

'Select Committee' To Eye Cuts

TA251856 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is expected to join a select committee headed by Prime Minister Peres, which will decide on the cut in the defense budget. Other members of the committee are Ministers Rabin, Moda'i, Ya'aqobi, Arens, and Weizman.

Rabin Freezes Construction

TA260602 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] The Defense Ministry will stop all its construction works, including projects which have already been approved and have received budget allocation. This was announced by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to heads of construction companies. He said that this freeze will come into effect once all those works presently being carried out by the defense establishment are completed. Our correspondent Yosi Qoren reports that the heads of the construction companies said that the Defense Ministry is their main employer and if it stops its projects, the construction branch will be destroyed. Minister Rabin was able to promise only that those construction projects for which U.S. aid has been allotted will be carried out. He also said that the crisis in the construction companies is a matter for the entire government and not one ministry or another.

Opposes Further Cuts

TA231138 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Nov 84 p 1

[Re'uven Pedatzur report]

[Text] One of the main reasons Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin objects to making another $150 million-cut in the defense budget apparently is the level of IDF stockpiles.

Senior sources in the Defense Ministry last night said the IDF's stocks are at a relatively low level.

The IDF has apparently failed to fill the void in reserves in the wake of the Lebanese war. This shortage has expanded rapidly since last summer and has affected training because of insufficient ammunition and engine hours. The Israeli Air Force has apparently also been affected by this shortage.

It seems that after the situation was explained to him, the defense minister decided to fight another cut which would undermine our ability to maintain security. Rabin will expound this theme and its implications at the meeting of the General Staff scheduled for Sunday.

U.S. Demanding More Drastic Economic Measures

TA261004 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 26 Nov 84 pp 1, 10

[Tzvi Zinger, Arye Tzimuqi, Avraham Dishon, and Eli Tavor report]

[Excerpt] The Israeli delegation headed by Finance Ministry Director General 'Imanu'el Sharon returned to Israel on Friday after holding talks with U.S. Administration officials about the Israeli economic situation. Initial reports arriving in Israel about the content of these talks reveal that the U.S. Administration does not have faith in the economic package deal and says that the budget cuts effected to date are far from what is required to curb inflation. The Americans are demanding more drastic measures from the Israelis. In the talks, the Americans merely listened to the arguments raised by the Israelis. They did, however, ask what Israel intends to do to stop the rampant money printing. The Israeli and U.S. delegations will hold another meeting in the next few days in the framework of the joint economic development group. In anticipation of this meeting, Israel will draw up a list of its requests for U.S. aid.

Peres Accuses Sharon of Splitting Government

TA250516 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Shim'on Peres has accused Minister Sharon of doing everything possible to split the government. Nevertheless, Peres noted that he has refrained from attacking Sharon because this would only strengthen his position in the Herut movement. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav has learned that these remarks were made in a closed meeting between the prime minister and a group of writers identified with the left. Peres told these writers that the fact is that settlements are not being established but he believes it is better not to talk about this in public.

Remarks 'Out of Context'

TA250724 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0641 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Sources in the Labor Party and some of those attending the meeting with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres yesterday have said that the prime minister's remarks about Minister Sharon were taken out of context. The reference is to the accusation made by Peres that Sharon is doing everything possible to split the government.

The sources told our correspondent Amnon Nadav that during the meeting the prime minister emphasized that he does not know of any other government better than the present one. Moreover, in response to criticism levelled by some of the participants in the meeting yesterday, that he has been allowing Minister Sharon to speak on behalf of the State of Israel, its government, and people in New York [where Sharon is testifying in a libel suit against *TIME* magazine], the prime minister made it clear that he does not intend to be dragged into an argument. The prime minister noted that there are some people who want the government to break apart, but he has no intention of collaborating with them or standing idly by while they attempt it.

Herut Rejects Accusations

TA251352 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1345 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Herut has issued an announcement saying that the prime minister's remarks about Minister Sharon are a continuation of the Labor Party ministers' path of attacking the Likud ministers, a path that cannot strengthen the unity government. The Herut movement, its spokesmen have said, rejects the prime minister's accusations against Minister Sharon. This refers to a report saying that, in a closed meeting of intellectuals, Peres said Sharon was trying to break up the national unity government.

Rabin on Preparation for Possible Eastern Front

TA251254 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 25 Nov 84 p 9

[Re'uven Pedatzur article: "The Threat of the Eastern Front"]

[Excerpts] In March 1967, when he was chief of staff, Yitzhaq Rabin appeared before the Cabinet and presented the IDF work plan. In his analysis of the regional political-military situation then, Rabin made it clear he was not expecting a war in the forseeable future. Two months later the 6-day war broke out.

Now, as defense minister, Yitzhaq Rabin takes care to make it clear that he has forgotten the lesson he learned 17 years ago. In remarks he made in a closed forum recently, the defense minister referred to his appearance before the Cabinet in March 1967 to make it clear to his audience that those in charge of formulating military strategy in the Middle East must be prepared to respond to the unexpected.

So, for example, the fact that the Iraqi Army has been preoccupied with its war against Iran for 4 years now does not, according to the defense minister's view, free the IDF from preparing for the possibility that Iraqi military power will be directed against us in the future. As may be recalled, in March 1967 the Egyptian Army was engaged in a long and exhausting war in Yemen and was not considered a serious threat. Two months later that Army was deployed on the Sinai front.

The defense minister's view is that the IDF must have ready appropriate military responses to potential threats, even when assessments indicate that the probability for the potential threat becoming a real one is low.

According to military experts' assessments, "the state of current relations between Syria, Jordan, and Iraq does not make possible the establishment of an Arab eastern front against Israel, particularly since Iraq is engaged in a long and difficult war." (This is, for instance, the assessment of members of the Tel Aviv University Strategic Studies Center, who put out the annual publication entitled "*The Military Balance in the Middle East*."

However, just as the defense minister does not make light of the possibility of surprising, far-reaching changes in the Arab world, so too the writers of this annual publication note that "the possibility that such a front will be established in the future should not be excluded."

It seems that the possibility of an eastern front which could constitute a potentially serious danger to Israel is troubling Israeli security policymakers to quite a degree. Iraq, Syria, and Jordan are now engaged in a large-scale arms buildup. The results of this process may place a question mark on the IDF's military superiority opposite the eastern front.

In a meeting with foreign correspondents this past week, Yitzhaq Rabin said that it is not only the power but also the quality of the Syrian Army which has significantly increased. According to Rabin, the most significant improvement took place in the aerial sphere, in anti-aircraft arms, the surfact-to-surface and the surface-to-sea missiles the Syrians have acquired. The defense minister emphasized that for the first time the Syrians enjoy a quantitative edge over Israel with regard to their major sophisticated weapon systems. Among other things, the defense minster noted the MIG-23 planes, the SS-21 missiles, and the SA-5 anti-aircraft missiles.

In reference to Iraq, Rabin emphasized the improvement in the Iraqi Army's logistic ability in the wake of the experience gained from the war against Iran. The Iraqi Army has about 2,000 tank transporters, and the implication that the number of such transporters has for sending forces to the anti-Israeli front is clear.

The Defense Ministry is particularly sensitive about Jordan. The accelerated modernization process through which the Jordanian Army, particularly the Air Force, is currently going is a source of concern to the defense minister. The proximity of the Israeli Air Force bases and other vital Israeli targets to Jordan makes defense against a Jordanian offensive more difficult.

Majority Believes Peace With Arabs Unattainable

TA260959 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 Nov 84 p 3

[PORI poll]

[Text] The majority of the Israeli public does not believe that there is a chance of attaining peace with another Arab country during the present government's term. This emerges from a PORI Institute national public opinion poll commissioned by *HA'ARETZ*.

To the question "do you believe there is a chance for peace with another Arab country under the present government?" 37.2 percent answered that they believe that there is a chance for peace; 51.6 percent said they do not believe so. Another 3.6 percent said that we "might" attain peace with another Arab country, and the remaining 7.6 percent refrained from giving their opinion on the issue.

A majority of those who believe that there is a chance think that the other Arab country with which Israel will reach a peace treaty will be Jordan. Another 6.3 percent believe that the other country will be Lebanon, and 3.1 percent think that the other Arab country will be Syria.

Those who did not know which Arab country the present government will attain peace with amounted to 4.9 percent.

The poll comprises a representative sample of 1,200 personally interviewed men and women throughout the entire country.

2 New Bank Note Denominations To Be Issued

TA251433 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] The day after tomorrow [27 November] a 10,000 shekel banknote will be brought into circulation. It has Golda Me'ir's portrait on it and is colored orange.

In another few months, a 50,000 shekel bank note is scheduled to be brought into circulation. It has the portrait of [author] Shay Agnon.

Further Reportage on ECOWAS Summit

Togo's Eyadema Opens Summit

AB231215 Dakar PANA in French 1045 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Lome, 23 Nov (ATOP/PANA) — The head of state of Togo, Guinea, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone lamented on Thursday in Lome the existence of obstacles which hamper the realization of the ECOWAS objectives and expressed the hope that the community would further address itself to the "indispensable" task of economic integration in the subregion at a time when the continent is faced with numerous ills and when international solidarity should be demonstrated. They were speaking at the 7th ECOWAS summit conference, which opened in the Togolese capital.

Togolese President Eyadema, who, like his peers, denounced the selfishness of industrial nations in the face of the economic crisis and the problems of famine and the drought in Africa, proposed the creation of a study committee grouping the ministers of finance and experts. The recommendations of the committee would be submitted to the attention of the heads of state and government.

With regard to the establishment of a common monetary zone, General Eyadema suggested that in default of a common currency for the subregion, the parity and convertibility of the existing currencies should be guaranteed. After recalling that the ECOWAS has given proof of its vitality and dynamism in its 9 years of existence, the Togolese head of state appealed to the member countries to pay their contributions regularly in order to enable the organization to carry out the mission assigned to it.

He also expressed the hope that in this extremely difficult economic situation for African countries, a common agricultural strategy would be adopted. Finally, Gen Eyadema invited his colleagues of the ECOWAS to foster a policy of good-neighborliness, with peace as the prerequisite for the implementation of all these policies.

Burkinabe President Sankara Speaks

AB230950 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Excerpts] The 7th ECOWAS Summit began in Lome, Togo, yesterday in the presence of 11 heads of state, including President Thomas Sankara, and five heads of delegations. They will examine ways and means of reviving the sluggish economies of our various states. Inoussa Kinde in Lome filed this report:

[Begin Kinde recording] The 7th ECOWAS summit began this morning at about 1000 in the Congress Hall of the Togolese People's Rally marble-walled palace in the presence of 11 heads of state and five heads of delegation. The opening ceremony took place about 2 hours after the arrival of President Sankara at the Lome airport.

In his opening speech, Togolese President Eyadema said the summit was important because of the wide-spread famine and drought. The summit will examine various points of views in one way or another, he said, adding that the road is still long in our efforts to achieve the integration of our economies for the happiness of our peoples. This is easy to understand because in the ECOWAS, there are differences of views in many fields.

President Eyadema stated that Africa, our continent, is in a state of crisis and one expects the universal conscience to be sensitive to our suffering; but this is not the case. That (?materialistic) conscience — namely the rich countries — has other preoccupations. One can mention the arms race and the North-South dialogue which, one must say, will not result in a new world order. It is therefore better to strengthen the South-South dialogue.

Among other issues examined were the setting up of a study committee by ECOWAS commerce ministers, the creation of a common currency, and the prompt payment of contributions.

ECOWAS incumbent chairman, Guinean President Lansana Conte, said that the economy and the infrastructure of his country made it impossible for Guinea to host this summit. According to Colonel Conte, for many years, the ECOWAS has been marking time because though decisions are made, many are not implemented. He called on his peers for consultations in order to match our objectives to our means, especially to our financial means; to determine our programs according to our available resources; and to pay attention to what happens between one summit and another. He hoped the decisions made would be followed. According to him, there are three priorities: development of transports and telecommunications, free movement and settlement of persons and property, and promotion of a common policy for the community.

Who wants to talk next? The president of Burkina Faso stands out, and speaks on behalf of the West African Economic Community [CEAO]. The tone and contents of his speech — proud, straight forward, and blunt — departs from other speeches. Some close their eyes. [as heard] The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and president of the republic said that this summit is a fortunate opportunity to expose our inability within the ECOWAS to solve our current problems. The existence of ECOWAS, he said, is an expression of Africa aimed at resisting and overcoming the exploitation and the domination of multinational organizations in the world.

Our backwardness and deadlocked situations have given us a complex of humility, and we act like a patient who takes in poison believing that it is medicine, Captain Sankara said, thus revealing his repeated determination to ensure that our organizations are run on a clear basis. There is no possible economic development without freedom, and we must wage a relentless and merciless struggle against the colonizer and domination. A right is not obtained through negotiations; it is snatched away, the comrade president said. This must begin by severing the umbilical cord linking us to imperialism; the cutting exercise should not be done with scissors in a ward by a tender and careful midwife, instead, it must be done with an axe — quickly and brutally — like our woodcutters.

Comrade Sankara later recalled the poverty of our people because of famine and drought. The ECOWAS must fight the impact of the drought; nothing else must deter our attention, the president said. He then called for more rigor in the management of the community.

This afternoon, the heads of state met again behind closed doors at the 2 February Hotel. There is no doubt that the president will once again use the opportunity to fustigate mean practices and to speak of the need for rigor, accountability, and honesty in the management of the community which groups more than 150 million people. The closing session of the summit will take place tomorrow evening. [end Kinde recording]

Summit Approves Sub-Sahara Fund

AB232150 Lome Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Seventh ECOWAS summit statement of approval of Sub-Saharan African fund proposal made at 20th OAU summit; issued in Lome on 23 November — read by ECOWAS Secretary General Diaby Ouattara]

[Text] Seventh summit conference of ECOWAS heads of state and government held in Lome 22 to 23 November 1984; Statement on the special fund for Africa south of the Sahara:

The heads of state and government, who met at a conference in Lome, Togolese Republic, on 22 and 23 November 1984, in their awareness of the greatness of the economic crisis that has hit Sub-Saharan Africa for several years, which was caused not only by world recession, unprecedented drought, desert encroachment, and serious structural problems; considering that UN development efforts made over the years for the economic and social well-being of all are quite insignificant; considering that urgent national and international measures must be complemented with policies of economic redynamization and long-term revival programs; considering that actions by African governments need to be backed by the revival of aid to development adapted to the needs of African countries; and considering that the exceptional efforts being made by these countries to revise their economic policies ought to be backed by exceptional aid from the international community, the conference appeals immediately to developed countries to join hands with African countries to implement the joint action plan for Africa south of the Sahara adopted by the Development Committee of the IMF and the World Bank on 23 September 1984 and supports this action plan for the creation of a special fund for Africa in accordance with the request made in September 1984 by the African delegations.

The conference endorses the resolution adopted at the 20th OAU heads of state and government summit conference at Addis Ababa from 12 to 15 November 1984 on this issue and launches an urgent appeal to the world community and leaders of developed countries to examine most attentively the development problems of African countries and to contribute substantially to this fund. They called on the World Bank to convene as soon as possible a meeting of financiers to this effect. Signed in Lome on 23 November 1984.

ALGERIA

Politburo Member Bitat Returns From France

LD251617 Algiers APS in English 1423 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Paris, 25/11/84 (APS) — Mr Rabah Bitat, Politburo member, president of the People's National Assembly, returned home yesterday following an official visit to France. The visit of Mr Bitat was marked by political talks with government members and representatives from the main political formation.

Talks covered questions of international politics and particularly those connected with problems lived through by the region.

Hungarian Parliamentarians Conclude 5-Day Visit

PM261405 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 16,17 Nov 84 p 4

[APS report: "Hungarian Parliamentary Delegation Leaves Algiers"]

[Text] Algiers — The Hungarian Parliamentary delegation headed by Communist Party [as published] Central Committee member and Hungarian National Assembly President Antal Apro left Algiers Thursday morning at the end of a 5-day official visit to Algeria.

The Hungarian Parliamentary delegation was seen off from Houari Boumediene International Airport by FLN Politburo member and National People's Assembly President Rabah Bitat, accompanied by several deputy presidents and committee chairmen.

During its stay the Hungarian Parliamentary delegation had a series of talks with top party and state representatives particularly concerning bilateral economic relations, especially in the agricultural field, and ways of developing and strengthening them.

The talks also broached Algeria's and Hungary's experiences in the field of national building, the perfecting of their institutions, and the development of relations between the FLN Party and the Hungarian Communist Party and between the two parliaments through exchanges of opinions and delegations.

The two sides also discussed the issues of liberation, peace, security, and peoples' self-determination.

During its stay the Hungarian Parliamentary delegation also visited the Jihad museum and made an excursion to Annaba Wilaya, where it visited the truck assembly plant, the El Hadjar steelworks, and the socialist village of Ain El Kerma.

LIBYA

Egyptian Consultations, Military Posturing Noted

Mubarak Meets With Commanders

NC250921 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] On the orders of Washington, President Husni Mubarak yesterday held unexpected consultations with Egyptian Defense Minister Lieutenant General [title as heard] 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah and senior Egyptian military commanders. The talks lasted 3 hours. General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, commander of the Armed Forces, and commanders of the other Egyptian military forces took part. No details were released about this meeting. It has not been ruled out that the meeting was held for the purpose of launching an aggression against Libya. DPA said that the Egyptian forces have been put on a state of maximum alert.

Arab League Informed

LD250901 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Tripoli 25 Nov (JANA) — Dr. 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the Popular Committee of the People's Bureaufor Foreign Liaison, yesterday sent a message to Brother Chedli Klibi, general secretary of the Arab League, informing him that the Egyptian forces have been placed in a state of red alert at the border of the Jamahiriyah, in preparation for an aggression against the Jamahiriyah. He pointed out that within the framework of preparing for this aggression, the president of the Egyptian regime, Husni Mubarak, last night held an emergency meeting, which included his military command, in addition to his defense minister.

The Secretary of the Popular Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison stressed to Chedli Klibi, general secretary of the League of Arab States, the determination of the People of the Jamahiriyah to defend themselves, and asked him to inform the sister Arab countries of the fact before it is too late, in accordance with the commitment to the joint Arab defense charter.

Tripoli Notes Sudanese Forces in South on 'Red Alert'

LD251547 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Major General Abu Bakr 'Abd al-Rahim, official spokesman of the lackey Numaryi's forces, has announced that the regime's forces in southern Sudan have been placed on red alert for fear of armed attacks by the Sudanese Popular Liberation Army against the regime's positions. The proclamation of this state of alert followed the Sudanese revolutionaries attack last week against Numayri's garrison south of Kordofan Province, which resulted in the death of a large number of the lackey's forces.

Jallud Receives Syrian Assistant Foreign Minister

JN222038 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Text] Tripoli — Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the 1 September Revolution Command, has praised Syria's steadfast and principled stands under President Hafiz al-Asad in the face of imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary schemes to impose hegemony over the Arab nation. This came when Maj Jallud received Assistant Foreign Minister 'Isam al-Na'ib in Tripoli today. Munir Barikhan, head of the Syrian liaison office in Tripoli, attended the meeting.

Maj Jallud asserted Libya's stand at Syria's side in one militant trench in the face of schemes hostile to the Arab nation and its central cause. He also asserted the support of the fraternal Libyan people and their revolution for the Syrian people's struggle in the face of the new hostile and capitulatory schemes led by 'Arafat and the Jordanian and Iraqi regimes.

MAURITANIA

Gambian President To Visit Nouakchott

AB240944 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Excerpt] At the invitation of His Excellency Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN and head of state, His Excellency Dawda Kairaba Jawara, president of the Republic of Gambia, is to make a working and friendly visit to Nouakchott from 24 to 26 November 1984.

MOROCCO

King Hassan: Full Support for 'Arafat

LD231458 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, has called on the PNC meeting in Amman to adopt resolute decisions compatible with the stage through which the Arab world is now passing. This call was contained in a message which the king sent to the PNC and which was read by the king's adviser, Ahmed Bensoudah, during the council's session this morning. In his message to the PNC, the king affirmed his full support, under whatever conditions, to his brother the great struggler Yasir 'Arafat.

SUDAN

MENA: Rebels' Infiltration Attempt Thwarted

NC241030 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Nov (MENA) — It was announced here today that the Sudanese Armed Forces have thwarted an attempt by the rebels to carry out acts of sabotage north of Malakal in the southern district of the Upper Nile.

Major General Abu Bakr 'Abd al-Rahim, the Armed Forces official spokesman, has stated that a group of rebels infiltrated into the north of Malakal and Tunga and then crossed over to the southern mountains and south of Kordofan. They tried to entice some Sudanese to join them to carry out acts of sabotage in other Sudanese areas.

Maj Gen 'Abd al-Rahim said that the Sudanese Armed Forces managed to kill eight rebels and wound others, and seized quantities of weapons. He added that the Sudanese Armed Forces are still on alert in the southern area of Lilir to monitor information on the rebels' movements, adding that the Armed Forces are prepared to crush all their attempts.

Jeddah's AL-MADINAH Cites Foreign Minister

GF241738 Jeddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 19 Nov 84 p 1

[Article by Maqbul Muhammad Maqbul]

[Text] Sudanese Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman, in a statement to *AL-MADINAH*, has said that African leaders have agreed to hold an extraordinary conference on the level of proportional representation in July 1985. He said that the conference will mainly be devoted to economic issues and to drawing up a joint African economic strategy to find a way out of the present economic crisis in Africa.

The Sudanese minister, who represented President Ja'far Numayri at the African summit which concluded its meetings in Addis Ababa recently, said that the summit was one of the most successful African summit conferences despite the fears and apprehensions that preceded it, particularly following the admission of the Polisario to the OAU.

Hashim 'Uthman said that the latest summit shunned conflict and vituperation and demonstrated that African leaders have a sense of responsibility and can act positively to contain all the problems facing their peoples. He said that the committee formed by the summit should be given the opportunity to implement the two resolutions on organizing a referendum in the Western Sahara on self-determination so that tension between the disputing parties can be eased.

The Sudanese foreign minister said that the Addis Ababa summit concentrated on the economic situation, the problems created by the drought and desert erosion, and the debts which African countries have been unable to repay. He said it was decided to set up a special fund to assist countries stricken by natural disasters. 'Uthman asserted that Sudan played an effective role in bringing about the summit's success and its efforts were appreciated by OAU member countries.

WESTERN SAHARA

APS: SDAR Communique: 136 Moroccan Troops Killed

LD241335 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Liberated Territories, 24 Nov (APS) — The Saharan Ministry of Information and Culture, issued a communique yesterday stating that the Saharan Liberation Army has been continuing its "Great Maghreb offensive". The Saharan Liberation Army carried out a series of attacks 6-20 November against the monarchist troops entrenched behind the so-called "protective wall".

The military communique stated that during these operations 340 Moroccan soldiers were put out of action, 136 of whom were killed. A considerable quantity of equipment was destroyed. Moroccan defensive positions especially in (?Wad Bou Gandouz), Rous Jachbien, (?Tachkent), Smul Niran and Jneinat were heavily shelled.

The communique also stated that other big concentrations of the monarchist forces near the "colonialist walls" were shelled several times. The shelling resulted in the destruction of 5 armored vehicles, 11 light vehicles, 7 trucks, 7 batteries with 23mm cannons, 8 14.5mm and 12.5mm cannons, 2 120mm mortars, 81 ammunition depots, a radar installation and personnel trenches.

DJIBOUTI

Government Agrees To Accept 'Political Prisoners'

NC250720 Paris AFP in English 0710 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Djibouti, Nov 25 (AFP) — The Government of Djibouti said today that it will take the 21 Somali political prisoners whose release has been demanded by three hijackers holding passengers hostage aboard a Somali airliner at Addis Ababa.

Authoritative sources here said the Djibouti authorities had taken the decision for humanitarian reasons. They were awaiting to see if the Government of Somalia would comply with the demands of the hijackers.

Djibouti is a tiny state in the Horn of Africa which borders on both Somalia and Ethiopia.

ETHIOPIA

Reportage on Hijacking of Somali Plane

Boeing 707 Hijacked

NC241040 Paris AFP in English 1037 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Djibouti, Nov 24 (AFP) — A Somali Airlines Boeing 707 was hijacked to Addis Ababa this morning, the French Army's monitoring service said here.

The plane, which was flying from Mogadishu to Cairo with a stopover in Berbera, northern Somalia, was hijacked before landing at Berbera.

According to the French Army, the plane flew to Aden, where it was refused permission to land, and then went on to Ethiopia. The Ethiopian authorities have so far made no mention of the hijacking.

Officials Threatened With Execution

NC251620 Paris AFP in English 1609 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Addis Ababa, Nov 25 (AFP) — Three hijackers holding a Somali airliner here today threatened to execute 20 Somali officials among the 108 people aboard the plane if their demands for the release of political prisoners in Somalia were not met by 2100 GMT, Ethiopian Foreign Ministry sources said.

The threat, which followed earlier statements by the hijackers that they would blow up the aircraft if their demands were ignored, came in the wake of an official Somali refusal to release any of the 21 prisoners named by the trio.

A ministry official acting as negotiator with the hijackers, three renegade officers of Somalia's Army, said the men had been "outraged" by the attitude of the Mogadishu government.

The hijackers' demands concerned the release of seven youths allegedly due to be executed by Somalia today for being members of illegal opposition groups and the liberation of 14 other political prisoners, including six high-ranking former officials arrested in June 1982 on charges of plotting against the government of President Mohammed Siad Barre.

The Somali Government has denied that the seven were to be executed today, while the Italian Embassy, which is acting as intermediary between Ethiopian and Somali authorities, said that sentences against the youths had still to be confirmed by President Siad Barre.

The hijackers have demanded that the 21 prisoners, once freed, should be taken to Djibouti, the Horn of Africa state bordering both Somalia and Ethiopia. Once their presence in Djibouti was confirmed, the hostages would be released, they said.

The radio in Djibouti, which said today it would accept the 21 "for humanitarian reasons," reported intense diplomatic activities in the capital of the Red Sea state. It said President Hassan Gouled had met with six foreign ambassadors today, including the envoys from Somali and Ethiopia.

Other officials called to the presidential palace included the ambassadors from Libya, France, the United States and Italy.

The hijackers had earlier today agreed to extend their deadline, initially to expire at 2100 GMT Saturday, for a second 12-hour period after receiving a request from Mogadishu for more time to consider the demands.

The announcement of the new delay came just after several vehicles were seen approaching the Somali airliner. Journalists at the scene said they recognized members of the Somali Salvation Democratic Front (SSDF), an Ethiopian-backed opposition movement. But Ethiopian officials denied the SSDF was involved in any negotiations.

Political Prisoners Named

NC241910 Paris AFP in English 1855 GMT 24 Nov 84

[All names as received]

[Text] Addis Ababa, Nov 24 (AFP) — The hijackers of the Somali Airlines Boeing 707 gave the names of the political prisoners whose liberation was demanded as:

Former Foreign Minister Omer Arteh Ghaleb, former Vice President Ismail Ali Aboker, former Health and Defense Minister Omer Haji Massalah, former Higher Education Minister Mohammed Aden Sheikh, former Animal Husbandry Minister Osman Mohammed Jalle, and former Finance Minister Mohammed Weyrah.

The others were Colonel Abdulahi Jama Galal, Colonel Ahmed Mohammed Hala, Colonel Mohammed Abdi, Suleiman Nuh (engineer), Ali Hassan Aden Banfa (teacher and poet), Farah Yusuf (engineer), Abdi Adan Qays (musician and poet), and Mohammed Ali Warsame.

The seven youths to be executed were given as: Ahmed Ibechi

Omer, Abdelrazak Ibrahim Koshim, Abdi Dama Abdi, Abdi Rahim Mohammed Barood, Abdi Ismail Mohammed, Mohammed Bashe Ali and Yusuf Mohammed Isa.

Hijackers Threaten Plane Explosion

NC251921 Paris AFP in English 1913 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, Nov 25 (AFP) — Somali hijackers, "furious" at the rejection of their demands by Somalia, have now threatened to kill all their 103 hostages and blow up the captured Boeing 707 Somali airliner, Ethiopian Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde said today.

"The situation is very tense," he said at a press conference at the airport here.

He said the three hijackers hiked their threat from killing 20 Somali officials among their hostages by 2100 GMT, if prisoners were not released in Somalia, to killing all hostages at once.

Hijackers Extend Deadline

NC252251 Paris AFP in English 2252 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Addis Ababa, Nov 25 (AFP) — Hijackers threatening to blow up a Somali airliner here with 108 hostages on board tonight extended their deadline until noon (0900 GMT) tomorrow, Ethiopian Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde said.

The Ethiopian Government had asked the hijackers, identified as three Somali officers, for more time to negotiate, Mr Wolde said. He called for "realism and cooperation" from both sides.

Mr Wolde named the three renegade Somali Army officers as Awil Aden Burhan, in charge of negotiations, Bashe Musa Mohamed and Ahmed Hadj Mohamed Aden. He did not specify their ranks.

Egypt has represented Somalia's interests in Ethiopia since the two Horn of African neighbours broke off relations at the time of their 1977 war over Ethiopia's Ogaden Province.

But the Italian Embassy said it was the intermediary on this occasion as communications were better between Mogadishu and Rome than between Mogadishu and Cairo.

Yesterday, the hijcakers released 22 of the original hostages, mostly women and children. The remaining passengers include an American, an Egyptian diplomat, a United Nations employee, a North Yemeni and two South Yemenis. All the rest are Somalis.

Foreign Minister on Hijacking

EA261216 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0930 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] The hijackers of the Somali Boeing jet airliner with 108 passengers and crew extended until noon today the deadline for the release of 21 opponents of the Siad Barre regime.

The hijackers, who have extended the deadline three times since last Saturday, extended yesterday's midnight deadline before it expired, according to a Foreign Ministry spokesman. The spokesman added that the Ethiopian Government, which is very concerned about the humanitarian nature of the situation, yesterday evening told the hijackers that it was vital that the negotiations achieve a fruitful result by connecting the issue with the deadline [sentence as heard].

The Ethiopian Government has also asked that the two sides show willingness and cooperation to achieve a satisfactory ending of the issue. The spokesman added that even though the earlier reply by the Somali Government had angered them, the hijackers said that they had extended the deadline to noon today contrary to their wishes.

In a press conference he gave yesterday evening at Bole International Airport, Comrade Goshu Wolde, Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee member and minister of foreign affairs, said that two of the passengers had sided with the hijackers. Comrade Goshu Wolde has also given the names of the three hijackers, these are: Capt Awil Aden Burhan, Bashe Musa Mohamed, and Ahmed Hadj Mohamed. In his statement Comrade Goshu pointed out that revolutionary Ethiopia, fundamentally does not support airline hijacking and added that our primary role is to save lives and end the situation peacefully.

Comrade Goshu Wolde briefed the press on the efforts made by the Ethiopian Government to find a peaceful solution to the issue from the time the hijacked airline landed at Bole International Airport last Saturday. It is recalled that the hijackers who now number five had demanded that the seven youths who had been sentenced to death, and 14 political prisoners, including the former Somali vice-president and five former ministers, be released and taken to Djibouti and that this safe passage be confirmed.

Their demand was passed to the Somali Government and in the reply that the Somali Government gave, it stated that, firstly, there are no plans to carry out the death sentences and that now and in future it would go over prisoners' files and clear up where and when they were arrested.

The Somali Government yesterday evening held talks with the three hijackers through the Italian Embassy and said that their demand was not acceptable and was a futile cover.

In his statement, Comrade Goshu pointed out that the hijackers were angered by the reply from the Somali Government and had been pushed towards burning the airplane together with the passengers and crew. Comrade Goshu added that a plea for cooperation had been passed to the Somali Government to find a peaceful solution to the problem and to save lives.

This Somali airline, with 112 passengers and 12 crew, was hijacked last Saturday. Through the continued efforts of the Ethiopian officials they have achieved the release of 19 passengers,including women and children and three crew members.

Situation Seen as 'Tense'

NC261227 Paris AFP in English 1219 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, Nov 26 (AFP) — Security remained tight at Addis airport today and the movements of people were heavily restricted as the 0900 GMT deadline set by the three hijackers of a Somali Boeing 707 airliner passed without incident.

Ethiopian authorities were carrying out intense negotiations with the hijackers, who had threatened to blow up the aircraft with all on board unless their demands were met.

Italian diplomatic sources told AFP at the airport today that the latest communication from the Somali Government had been transmitted to the Ethiopians earlier today.

In it, Mogadishu was said to have indicated that the death sentences on seven Somali youths allegedly due to have been carried out yesterday had been suspended.

But the sources said the Mogadishu government had said nothing on the fate of the 14 prominent former Somali politicians and senior army officers whose release had been demanded by the hijackers.

Two hours after the deadline expired, and with no indication of a new one being fixed, the situation at the airport remained extremely tense as fears grew that the negotiations might totally fail and the hijackers' threats be carried out at any moment.

The hijackers, who diverted the plane to Addis Ababa on Saturday, are said to be heavily-armed with explosives and pistols. Named as Somali army officers, Captain Awil Aden Burhan, Bashe Musa Mohamed, and Ahmed Haj Mohamed Aden, they were said to have been joined by two of the passengers who supported their cause.

The more than 100 hostages on board the airliner include an American, two Italians, one Egyptian diplomat, one United Nations employee, one North Yemeni and two South Yemenis. The rest are Somalis.

It seemed unlikely to observers here that the hijackers would surrender to the authorities. The group's leader was discribed as firm, tough and determined.

The only choice left to the Ethiopian negotiators appeared to be another attempt to get the hijackers to extend their deadline for a fourth time, or wait for a further move from Mogadishu.

U.S. Congressional Delegation Arrives on Visit

LD251505 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1000 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] A 21-member team led by U.S. Congress member, Mr George Leland, arrived in Addis Ababa yesterday evening to tour and see the problem caused by drought in Ethiopia. During its 4-day stay the team will tour drought-affected areas and hold talks with senior government officials.

On arrival in Addis Ababa, Mr Leland said that the team would seek ways to get more aid after assessing the problem. There are eight U.S. Congress members in the team. On arrival in Addis Ababa, the team was received by Comrade Behanu Deresa, deputy-commissioner of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission; Comrade Tibebu Bekele, permanent-secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and members of U.S. Embassy in Socialist Ethiopia.

SOMALIA

Reportage on Reaction to Airliner Hijacking

Ministry Confirms Hijacking

EA241448 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Somali Airline Flight No 414 which left at 0800 for Mogadishu, [as heard] Berbera, and Jeddah was hijacked by unknown persons and landed at 1030 at Addis Ababa airport.

The report, which we received from the aviation section of the Ministry of Air and Land Transport, adds that this was a scheduled flight.

Statement Issued on Hijacking

EA251238 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1055 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] A spokesman of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Foreign Ministry has today said that a group of unknown terrorists hijacked a Somali aircraft of the Somali Airlines during a scheduled flight to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, yesterday, 24 November 1984. The hijacked aircraft was forced to fly to Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia, carrying passengers comprising Somalis and foreigners of various nationalities. The lives of the innocent passengers are in danger from the terrorists who hijacked the aircraft yesterday at 0800 Mogadishu time or 0500 GMT.

The reason given by the terrorist group for hijacking the aircraft is to save the lives of seven persons whom they claim were to be executed today, 25 November 1984. This is a false reason, one of their own making which they have invented as a pretext for their act of terrorism. This is because they do not intend to carry out what they have said.

The second demand by the terrorists, which is the release of prisoners in Somalia, cannot be accepted because to do so would be tantamount to submitting to terrorist threats, which would encourage international terrorism throughout the world.

The SDR Government therefore completely rejects the demands.

The unlawful manner in which the airliner was hijacked in flight endangers the lives of the passengers and greatly undermines the confidence the people of the world have in international passenger flights and their safety. This kind of act directly violates international treaties on civil aviation, as well as existing treaties on combating such hijackings, of which the Ethiopian Government is a signatory. The Ethiopian Government is accordingly expected to play its part in safeguarding the hijacked Somali airliner and its passengers and crew. The Somali Government holds the Ethiopian Government fully responsible to secure and safeguard the immediate return of the passengers and the airliner to the Somali Democratic Republic.

That is the end of the official statement.

Ethiopia Said 'Fully Responsible'

EA260959 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0415 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Report on speech by President Mohamed Siad Barre to the 2d session of the Somali National Assembly on 25 Nov — with portions recorded]

[Excerpts] Challe Siad said that it is important and instructed leaders to fully prepare the nation for the forthcoming national election. [as heard] He added that it is imperative and essential to fully implement election procedures and regulations in a just and fair manner.

The country's overall situation is fine, particularly in the political, economic, security, and social sectors we are fine.

When I say that, it does not mean there are no shortcomings or difficulties. There is no place on earth where there are no problems. It is possible that among developing countries like ours, that they face more difficulties than us, but if you compare our country with our neighbors, I believe we are among the best, particularly if you view our economic, political, and social stability. I say we are fine.

At times, we say that we are passing through difficult times. People take that as if there are insurmountable problems. The truth is that we would like to achieve overall success, but I say we are on the road to our objectives and aims.

Natural problems beyond our control exist and there are manmade problems that require our effort and self-confidence to solve them. But this does not mean that people with understanding cannot create terrorism [words indistinct].

[Begin Barre recording] "If I take an example, one of our aircraft has been hijacked to Addis Ababa with 120 passengers abroad according to the report, and the crew who are either our people or foreigners.

"This problem is with the Ethiopian Government: We await their action. Everyone knows [word indistinct] the values of the world. We await their action. The Ethiopian Government is fully responsible for securing the safety of the passengers, the crew, and the aircraft itself. We hope that they will meet their international obligation and role, as agreed by the world at large, to fight this ugly action." [end recording]

Government 'Unhappy' With Negotiations

EA261206 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] In accordance with an official statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a spokesman of the ministry said the Somali Government is unhappy with the way the Ethiopian Government is handling the negotiations with the terrorists being held at the international airport in Addis Ababa, causing the continuation of the difficulty and increasing the danger in which the passengers and aircraft are placed.

Rebels Claim Major Offensive Launched

NC241415 Paris AFP in English 1352 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] London, Nov 24 (AFP) — Two Somali rebel groups have launched a major offensive in northern Somalia, cutting off all communication links between the north and south of the Horn of Africa state, the opposition Somali National Movement (SNM) said here today.

A communique from the movement said its guerrillas had been joined by fighters from the Somali Salvation Democratic Front (SSDF), in pursuing the offensive, which it said was launched several weeks ago.

(A State Department official in Washington confirmed late yesterday that clashes between Somali Government troops and insurgents had taken place in northwest Somalia, where the United States maintains a naval air base.

(The official, who asked to remain anonymous, said the U.S. Embassy in Mogadishu had learned that between 300 and 1,000 guerrillas opposed to the regime of President Mohamed Siad Barre had infiltrated the area from Ethiopia.)

The SNM communique, which made no mention of insurgent troop strength, said the joint offensive by the two movements had forced government troops to withdraw into major cities, leaving the countryside virtually in rebel control.

It added that guerrilla attacks had taken place against government garrisons in Durukhsi and Bisiga, both south of the city of Burao in northwestern Somalia, and in Awahadhow, 30 kilometers (18 miles) from the Red Sea port of Berbera where the U.S. base is located.

It added that SNM troops had occupied the northwestern towns of Gebile and Sheikh and were fighting in Hargeisa, Somalia's second city, Toon and Dararwayne.

A report from neighboring Djibouti earlier this month said that Berbera, Hargeisa and Burao had been cut off by road from the rest of the country and placed under curfew.

The SNM said the Mogadishu government had sent a squadron of Chinese-built MIG-19 fighters to the north to counter the offensive, but the planes were reportedly grounded by a lack of maintenance expertise.

The communique accused government forces of carrying out massacres and mass arrests in northern towns and villages in an effort to crush rebel activities.

It said 45 dignitaries had been executed in Hargeisa and Arapsyo earlier this month and that in all some 100 people had been killed by the army during the past 30 days.

President Chairs Session To Approve 1985 Budget

EA231636 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0430 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] The ordinary session of the Government Council under the chairmanship of Somali Democratic Republic President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre last night approved the government budget for 1985. This will stand at 16,345,593,248 Somali shillings. Of this 6,790,697,248 Somali shillings will be recurrent expenditure and 9,554,896,000 Somali shillings will be development expenditure.

SDR President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre urged the council after the budget was approved to collectively concern themselves with implementing the country's economic policy, which was aimed at increasing production, minimizing expenditure and intensifying tax collection. The SDR president further called upon the council to be vigilant in ensuring the implementation of that policy.

The council heard Finance Minister Mohamed Sheikh Usman give a detailed report on the 1985 budget, which exceeds the 1984 budget by 1,263,521,076 shillings.

CHAD

Lassou Returns From Addis Ababa, Paris

AB232058 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Gouara Lassou, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, returned to Ndjamena this afternoon from Addis Ababa where he represented the president of the republic, El Hadj Hissein Habre, at the 20th OAU summit as head of delegation. One may also note that the Chadian foreign minister spent a few days in Paris before returning to Ndjamena.

Libya Seen 'Raising Stakes' in Chad

PM241447 Paris LE MONDE in French 23 Nov 84 p3

[Francoise Chipaux dispatch: "Ndjamene Condemns Overflying of Its Positions by Libyan Aircraft as Provocation"]

[Text] Ndjamena — Another provocation by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi: This is the interpretation most generally accepted in Ndjamena after two Libyan Antonov reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Kouba-Olanga region (northern Chad) and the Ati region (450 km north east of Ndjamena) on the morning of Wednesday 21 November. This flight took place the day after a Libyan helicopter machine gunned a patrol of the Chadian National Armed Forces [FAN] in the region of Kalait, south of Fada, on the 16th parallel, killing nobody and causing no damage. The 16th parallel was the red line which could not be crossed until the withdrawal of the French Manta Force on 10 November.

According to Chadian Information Minister Soumaili Mahamat, "These incidents prove that the Franco-Libyan agreement of 16 September was a trick." It must be admitted that these two events back the view of the Chadian authorities, who still refuse to believe Col al-Qadhdhafi's word.

By sending two aircraft to overfly an area far south of the 16th parallel Col al-Qadhdhafi probably wanted to show Paris that the reconnaissance flight carried out last Sunday by two French Jaguar aircraft did not worry him at all. One of the areas overflown — Kouba-Olanga, opposite Faya-Largeau — was certainly not chosen at random. Bardai radio broadcasts monitored recently indicated that the Transitional National Union Government's [GUNT] Libyan allies feared a large-scale attack by the FAN on the big northern palm grove. One thing is certain: Col al-Qadhdhafi will make every effort to prevent President Hissein Habre from recapturing Faya-Largeau, the city where he was born and which is the very symbol of control over Northern chad.

There is reason to think, therefore, that aside from another show of strength aimed at Paris, Libya was trying to discover whether its ally's fears were justified and to assess the size of the government forces in the Faya-Largeau region and in the Ati rear base. This incident is particularly worrying since, following the Manta Force's withdrawal, constant surveillance of Chadian airspace is no longer provided.

As the days pass with no sign of a Libyan withdrawal starting, Col al-Qadhdhafi seems to want to raise the stakes to force Paris to choose between humilitation and war. Pending a French decision, the Chadian authorities, who are showing extreme caution, are continuing to strengthen the northern front. Troops, including elements of the presidential guard, shock commandos, and equipment have been sent from the south of the country to the north. FAN Chief of Staff Major Idriss Debi is still in Kalait.

Ndjamena is less prepared that ever to contemplate the return of just a French deterrent force. The Cabinet met this Thursday morning, probably to assess the situation after President Hissein Habre's talks with French officials. In an editorial published on Wednesday, ATP, the official Chadian press agency, set the tone by writing: "Memories of Manta invoked here and there as a possible response to the Libyan presence can only make us smile. This time it will be necessary to fight."

U.S. Challenged To 'Prove Nationality' of Troops

AB232315 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Summary] "The latest serious events in the political and military situation in Chad is created by the United States and the French military backing of the Ndjamena regime with reports of French troops getting ready to return to Chad. This situation has today raised a number of issues. On the Chadian side, Comrade Adoum Yacoub, secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, has challenged the Americans to prove by satellite the nationality of forces present on Chadian territory."

According to Comrade Adoum Yacoub, if there were still some Libyan soldiers in Chad, their number remains the same as those of the French in Ndjamena. He said the GUNT has had time to gain support from all over the country and has been able to put together a more organized army that is better equipped and ready to fight to preserve the freedom of their countrymen.

CDR Issues Communique on Libyan, GUNT Ties

AB241156 Paris AFP in French 1005 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 24 Nov (AFP) — In a communique released to AFP today in Brazzaville, the Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR), one of the Chadian main armed opposition branches of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), denounces the Libyan authorities who, according to it, "are striving to impose Mr Goukouni at the head of the GUNT."

The communique says that the CDR is of the opinion that the alliance between Libyan and Chadian revolutions "should take into account the independence of the Chadian opposition, which consists in a free political orientation in accordance with the interests of the Chadian people."

The communique also protests against the arrests of several members of the CDR headquarters, among them Acheik Ibn Oumar, the secretary general. By arresting him, they "prevent him from getting in touch with his fighting unit." The Revolutionary Democratic Council calls on all its combatants from the north to the center, from the east to the south, not to "ever yield to any kind of attacks, to be vigilant in order to strengthen the struggle of the Chadian people against foreign domination and to achieve peace, unity and social progress."

ZAIRE

Mobutu Visits Troops at Moba District

AB260710 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] The people of Moba and the Zairian Armed Forces there feel totally reassured because the guide Mobutu paid a quick visit yesterday to the area of the attack. The father of the nation congratulated and thanked the valiant soldiers of the 21st and 31st brigades, who took back the district on 16 November. Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko released a large amount of money to help schools buy supplies. Finally, the head of state called on the soldiers there to restore the confidence of the people who were traumatized by the incursions of the outlaws.

Troops Placed on Alert on Angola Border

LD241506 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] The Army has been placed on alert in Zaire on Shaba Province's border with Angola. According to the deputy governor of the province this is a result of the invasion of Moba town by rebels last week. According to eye-witness reports gathered by Zaire television, a dozen soldiers from Moba garrison are reported to have been massacred by opponents coming from Tanzania. Fighters attacked the town during the absence of the Zaire president who was in Europe at the time. Finally, a pilot of the Zaire Air Force is at present under arrest by the Zambian authorities in Solwezi, where he landed on Wednesday. It seems the pilot had lost his way. In any case, Zambia has reinforced its security arrangements on the border with Zaire.

Situation Remains Calm in Manono, Piana

AB241352 Dakar PANA in French 1036 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 24 Nov (AZAP/ZANA) — The situation is calm at Manono and at Piana in Shaba Province, and it was not disrupted for even a moment, the Zaire Tin Company [Zairetain] officials confirmed on Friday in a statement they gave to AZAP on Friday. In their statement, the Zairetain officials have categorically denied the alarming and fantastic rumors spread by the Western press over the past days, that Manono and Piana have been invaded by the so-called People's Revolution Party [PRC].

The company is continuing its operations normally in the two areas. Zairetain is a Belgian-Zairian company — 50 percent of the shares belonging to each of the partners, with the Geological and Mining Company of Belgian Industrial Engineers representing the Belgian side — which has been mining tin in Manono since long before Zaire achieved its independence. Furthermore, the observers have noted many contradictions in the foreign reports from circles hostile to Zaire. On the one hand, the so-called "PRP" claims to have taken up arms and controls the city of Manono. On the other hand, those who claim to belong to the "Cartel of National Union" claim that there was mutiny or a rebellion within the Zairian Army.

The statement, made by Reverend Father Pachi, a Spanish priest in Moba who cannot be suspected of any affinity with the Kinshasa government, confirms that those who have brought about insecurity in that area were well-armed civilians from abroad. Certainly, it is still too early to analyze all the consequencies of this adventure of armed incursion into Moba, an adventure that has ended suddenly thanks to the rapid and efficient intervention of the Zairian Army.

Last week's events in Moba should inspire the so-called dissidents to be more modest. They are confortably established abroad but they cannot claim to have any popular support in Zaire.

Statements by Moba inhabitants have confirmed that the Zairian people are attached to the country's institutions. In addition, the Zairetain statement, which has been confirmed by Shaba Deputy Governor Mbalanga, has revealed the lies that the Zaire's enemies spread to influence Western public opinion. These statements, which are in agreement with many others, moreover dismiss the possibility of a rebellion which has been complacently spread in Brussels.

BURKINA

Head of State Returns From ECOWAS Summit

AB241521 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council for the Revolution and president of Burkina, is back from Lome, Togo, where he attended the 7th summit of the heads of state and government of the Economic Community of West African State, ECOWAS, along with his brothers.

GHANA

U.S. Congressman Meets Agriculture Secretary

AB230725 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] A U.S. congressman, Mr Cooper Evans, who is on a 2-day visit to the country, yesterday paid a courtesy call on the secretary for agriculture, Dr Adje Manfu, in Accra. Mr Cooper, who is a member of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture, had a wide range of discussions with Dr Adje Manfu on agricultural issues.

The secretary briefed Mr Evans on the problems facing his ministry, particularly machinery and storage facilities. Mr Evans explained that he is in Ghana to assess the impact of the U.S. food aid program and to explore the possibility of promoting the sale of corn and soybeans to Ghana.

DPRK Envoy Calls for Energy Cooperation

AB231205 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] The ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Ghana, Chang Tu-ho, has called for the exchange of experiences between specialists of the two countries in the field of power generation and distribution. Mr Chang made the call during talks in Accra with the secretary for fuel and power, Appiah Korang. He said the DPRK attaches great importance to the development of relations with Ghana in view of the common aspirations of the two countries as Third World nations and also as members of the Nonaligned Movement. The ambassador said in spite of Ghana's present economic difficulties, it has a very bright future, having regard for the enormity of its resources and the determination of the people to work harder to resuscitate the economy. Mr Chang was happy that the fuel situation in the country has improved considerably.

Appiah Korang gave the ambassador an overview of the energy situation in the country and the PNDC's [Provisional National Defense Council] program for ensuring that energy is readily available to support social and economic activities in the country. He also commended the achievements of the DPRK in rural electrification and said that is an area that their two countries can cooperate.

Outgoing Guinean Envoy Calls on Rawlings

AB241523 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] The outgoing Guinean ambassador to Ghana, Mr Mamadou Sherif Diallo, this morning paid a farewell call on the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings, at the Castle Osu. Mr Diallo leaves Ghana on Monday after 9-year's duty tour. Mr Diallo and Flight Lt Rawlings discussed ways of strengthening the already cordial relations existing between their two countries. They also discussed how to preserve and maintain African unity.

Speaking to newsmen later, Mr Diallo advised Ghanaians to seize the opportunity created by the revolution and participate fully in the country's administration. Mr Diallo is among 23 envoys who have been recalled home by the Guinean Government.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Portuguese Grant, ANOP Cooperation Reported

AB250815 Paris AFP in French 1342 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Bissau, 24 Nov (AFP) — Portugal is ready to grant Guinea-Bissau about 5 million Guinean pesos for the development of its national press agency, it is learned from an official source in Bissau. This was reported by the Portuguese secretary of state for cooperation, Gaspar da Silva, following the signing in Bissau of a cooperation agreement and a contract between its national press agency and ANOP [AGENCIA NOTICIOSA PORTUGUESA].

The agreement provides for the training and retraining of journalists and communication techncians of Guinea-Bissau and the organization of courses and seminars, as well as the establishment of a direct link between Lisbon and Bissau through a telegraphic circuit between the two agencies.

IVORY COAST

President Returns From Lome ECOWAS Summit

AB251345 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Excerpts] President Houphouet-Boigny went to Anyama this morning to preside over a two-fold sacerdotal ceremony, namely the 50th anniversary of Ivory Coast's clergy and the 25th anniversary of the creation of the Anyama higher seminary. The head of state returned to Ivory Coast early this morning from Lome where he attended the seventh ECOWAS summit conference.

Military Maneuvers With France Begin 23 Nov

AB231158 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 23 Nov 84

[Excerpts] The French-Ivorian large military maneuvers named "Comoe 84" will actually begin this afternoon with the installation of the various units and of the directorate of the exercise.

Lieutenant General Michel du Payrat yesterday arrived in Abidjan to take part in "Comoe 84." He will participate in the maneuvers as co-director with our chief of staff, General Zeze Barouan.

These French-Ivorian military maneuvers, the most important so far, will involve some 5,000 men and imposing military materiel. This kind of exercise takes place periodically. The preceding maneuvers took place 3 years ago in the Touba region in the northwestern part of the country. This time they will take place in the Yamoussoukro region, as well as at Dimbokro, about 200 km north of Abidjan, the economic capital.

We wish to point out that the member countries of the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement, Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, and Togo — apart from Ivory Coast — have been invited to send observers to "Comoe 84."

Former Minister of State Alexis Lebbe Dies

AB260900 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 0745 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] The Ivory Coast has just lost one of its worthy sons. His Excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny, chairman of the party, president of the republic, and head of state regrets to announce the death of Alexis Thierry Lebbe, former minister of state and member of the Political Bureau. The date of his burial will be announced later.

LIBERIA

Doe Returns From ECOWAS Summit 24 Nov

AB250748 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] The head of state and president of the Interim National Assembly, Commander in Chief Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, and party arrived home this morning after attending the seventh summit of ECOWAS in Lome, Togo. Dr Doe told reporters at the Roberts International Airport on arrival that a new secretariat was elected during the Lome summit for another 8 years.

Commenting on Liberia's financial standing with the community, the head of state said issues concerning the financial aspect of her obligation and those who are concerned will meet to discuss the issues. Head of state Doe, who headed the Liberian delegation to the summit, described the outcome of the meeting as very successful.

NIGERIA

Buhari Turns Down Offer of ECOWAS Chairmanship

AB232320 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] Nigeria has turned down an offer to assume the chairmanship of ECOWAS. The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, who turned down the offer in Lome, Togo, explained that he was too saddled with a number of pressing social and economic problems at home to be able to discharge his duties of chairman of the subregional organization effectively.

With regard to this development, the acting chairman of ECOWAS, Colonel Lansana Conte of Guinea, was left to continue the [words indistinct].

Buhari Criticizes 'Self-Seeking' Students, Staff

AB260620 Lagos NAN in English 1330 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Ilaro (Ogun), Nov 25 (NAN) — The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, yesterday called on staff and students of educational institutions in the country to tailor their demands to reflect the economic mood of the nation.

In a message to the first graduation ceremony of the Federal Polytechnic, Ilaro, Ogun, the head of state said that most of the demands made by them were unrealistic and negated national aspirations. He also said that the tenacity with which staff pursued their demands raised doubts about their genuineness while students embarked on rampage without consulting necessary avenues for negotiations. "It is therefore no cause for surprise that the public feel that our institutions of higher learning are strongholds of self-seeking and pampered staff and students," Major Gen Buhari said.

Maj Gen Buhari said that since the academic community was part of the priviledged class in the society, it must show good examples to the less priviledged ones by pruning down its demands.

On technical education, the head of state said that the government placed great emphasis on the development of middle level manpowers with relevant skills and technical expertise. He said that the new national policy on education had high technical content because of the need to develop local potentials and lessen Nigeria's dependence on imported skills and expertise. Maj Gen Buhari said, "It is through the development of indigenous skills and technological awareness among the populace that we can put behind us the stigma and discomfort of a country where nothing works." He said that about 40 naira million had been spent by the Federal Government on the Federal Polytechnic, Ilaro.

The head of state's message was read by Ogun Military Governor Brigadier Oladipo Diya. The rector of the polytechnic, Dr Tayo Ogunbadejo, called for the establishment of the regional centres where newly-graduated engineers and allied professionals could acquire experience. He said that the lack of industrial centres for graduates and the dwindling enthusiasm by industries to employ had blocked the realisation of the nation's technological aspirations.

British Daily: 80 Public Executions Since Coup

AB251030 Paris AFP in English 0947 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] London, Nov 25 (AFP) — More than 80 people have been publicly executed in the past 11 months in Nigeria, some of them in front of their own families, the *OBSERVER* reported today, adding that the death penalty was sometimes carried out privately in order to ease prison congestion.

The British weekly newspaper also said that in many cases, persons convicted of such relatively minor offenses as car theft had been executed, sometimes only hours after they had been judged.

It said that 55 convicted criminals were put to death, though not in public, on November 15 in the Nigerian state of Enugu.

It quoted the controller of prisons as saying that nine people were shot and 46 hanged "to ease congestion" in the prisons. More than 800 people sentenced to death by military tribunals set up after the military coup 11 months ago to combat crime are still awaiting execution, the *OBSERVER* said. It noted that there is no right of appeal.

The paper quoted the human rights organisation Amnesty International as saying that in some cases sentences were carried out so swiftly as to "raise doubts about the thoroughness of the review process."

In Kwara State, for instance, eight men convicted of car theft were shot within 48 hours. Last week the *OBSERVER* reported that 42 members of the Army involved in an attempted countercoup against the Government of Major-General Muhammadu Buhari had been shot. The report was denied by the Nigerian Government.

Case of Britons Accused of Plane Theft Postponed

AB231605 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] The two Britons charged with conspiracy and stealing of a private aircraft at Murtala Mohamed International Airport appeared again today at a Lagos high court. They are Angus Patterson and Kenneth Clark. When the case was called, the defense counsel, Mr (Bayo Amesopesan), objected to further proceedings in the case because he wanted a state counsel rather than a federal prosecutor to prosecute the action.

But the deputy director of public prosecution in the Federal Ministry of Justice, Mr A.A. Oladapo, said that the objection was ill-timed. He said the issue of bail being argued had outweighed the constitutional argument raised by the defense counsel.

Before adjourning the case to the 30th of this month, the trial judge, Mr Justice Anthony Okoribido, said all constitutional and legal issues will be resolved before bail could be considered.

Papers Comment on U.S., British UNESCO Withdrawal

AB260950 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Nov 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The *DAILY STAR* examines the decision of both the American and the British Governments to withdraw from UNESCO. The paper notes that the two countries took the decision because they failed in an attempt to dominate the organization. It commends UNESCO for resisting the imperialist advancement of both countries. The *STAR* thinks that their withdrawal will not disorganize the UNESCO.

SENEGAL

Diouf Returns From Lome ECOWAS Summit

AB232053 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Excerpt] President Abdou Diouf returned to Dakar this afternoon from Lome where he participated in the seventh ECOWAS summit.

French Army Chief of Staff Arrives for Visit

AB260920 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] General Jeannou Lacaze, French Army chief of staff, arrived in our country yesterday evening for a few days' official visit to Senegal. Gen Lacaze, who was met by General Tavares de Souza, will be received by the minister of Armed Forces and also by the president of the republic.

SIERRA LEONE

Talks on Cooperative Projects With Britain End

AB260926 Paris AFP in English 0804 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] Freetown, Nov 26 (AFP) — Discussions on the second phase of the Anglo-Sierra Leone co-operative projects programmes have ended here with the announcement that 2.5 million pounds (2.1 million dollars) is to be spent on basic maintenance and rehabilitation of bridges and ferries over the next four years.

Five maintenance teams are to be set up, headed by three British engineers with two Sierra Leonean engineers acting as team leaders.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Magazine Interview Redistributed

MB231234 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Text] ANGOP has redistributed to their consumers the corrected version of the interview with Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola by the magazine *CADERNOS DO TERCEIRO MUNDO* [*THIRD WORLD DIARIES*] after the errors and omissions that twisted the meaning and views of some of the statements from the text which has already been broadcast and rebroadcast by the radio stations.

In the extensive interview, the Angolan head of state starts by speaking about the preservation of the independence and sovereignty of the Angolan people as the greatest success achieved by the country in the 9 years of its existence, and notes that this is due to the high level of politicization and determination of our people to defend their gains.

On the issue of the victories by the Armed Forces in the struggle against our enemies, the chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola analyzed several vital factors. He referred first to the launching of the great popular mobilization campaign under the slogan "let us organize the armed defense of the people to defend the revolution in August 1983," as well as the improvement of the organization of the armed forces, strengthening of the discipline and the military command at the different levels, creation of the different military regional councils, changes in the battle tactics we were using, and the rapid effort made to cope with the new situation created by imperialism and its allies.

In the *CADERNOS DO TERCEIRO MUNDO* interview, the Angolan head of state also cited the state control of the main Angolan resources, the progressive building of an economy aimed at meeting the basic needs of the population, the free medical assistance provided to all citizens, and the right to free education, as victories of the country.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos stressed that at the primary school level, 2 million of children attended classes and more than 1 million of citizens were taught how to read and write. Continuing on the internal situation, the Angolan leader established as immediate targets solving the basic food problems and the simultaneously creating conditions for modifying the capitalist production factors. He mentioned as a priority task the recovery of the rural production not only in the agricultural sector, but also in the cattle-breeding sector, and he emphasized that the peasant family economy has contributed 60 percent of the market production of agricultural and livestock products.

On the issue of the withdrawal of the South African forces from within Angola according to the Lusaka Agreement, the Angolan head of state said that the Lusaka Agreement is still valid and then he believed that South Africa does not wish to renounce this agreement. On the progress of the withdrawal, the Angolan head of state noted that the withdrawal is being carried out slowly, and said that the reasons given by South Africa for delaying the withdrawal of its forces are neither valid nor acceptable. There is no basis for forcing Angola to have control over the SWAPO guerillas when South Africa, with an older army than the Angolan one, cannot control them inside Namibia, said the head of state, thus rejecting the reasons that Pretoria is systematically presenting to prevent the implementation of what dialogue has already accomplished.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos also speaks on the issue of the movement of the UNITA armed bands in areas near the Zaire border, and some armed actions in those areas. The Angolan head of state said that some movements of the UNITA armed elements in areas near the Zaire border lead us to admit that some border areas of the Zaire border are being used by UNITA. However, we cannot say that such actions are being waged with the consent of the central government of Zaire, with which the Angolan Government has had an understanding since 1978 to not use either country's territory for action against the other country.

In the interview with the Angolan presdient, the Portuguese edition of the *CADERNOS DOTERCEIRO MUNDO* also dealt with the Lome Convention. After noting that the Angolan Government has attended the discussions of the text of the new convention, the comrade president gave assurances that Angola's adherence to it will depend on the content of the text. On the issues of the World Bank and the IMF, the Angolan head of state said that Angola has studied the experiences of other so-called Third World countries which have relations with these financial institutions, and that it is also eager to study their internal machanisms. In a first phase, observer status will be accepted by our country, said Dos Santos.

The extensive interview ends with a brief analysis of the relations with Portugal, classified by the President of the Republic as being stagnant. The relations with Brazil offer good prospects.

President Relieves 2 Envoys of Their Posts

MB250918 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Presidential decrees issued by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Luanda on 24 November 1984]

[Text] I, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, under the terms of Article 53, paragraph A, of the constitutional law and for administrative reasons relieve from his post Joaquim Augusto de Lemos, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Angola to the Kingdom of Belgium, Netherlands, and the EEC. He had been appointed by Presidential Decree No 103 of 23 November 1982.

I, Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, under the terms of Article 53, paragraph E, of the constitutional law and for administrative reasons relieve from his post, Telmo Felicio de Almeida, Angolan ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Republic of Italy. He had been appointed by Presidential Decree No 58 of 14 June 1982.

I, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, under the terms of Article 53, paragraph B, of the constitutional law appoint Comrade (Baptista Carvalho Bundo), to the post of Uige assistant provincial commissar.

I, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, under the terms of Article 53, paragraph B, of the constitutional law appoint Comrade (Mario Sambuaco), to the post of Cunene assistant provincial commissar.

I, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, under the terms of Article 53, paragraph B, of the constitutional law appoint Comrade (Hilario Jose Domingues), to the post of Namibe assistant provincial commissar.

Office of the President of the People's Republic of Angola, Luanda, 24 November 1984. [Signed] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the republic.

48 UNITA Members Killed in Benguela Province

MB240714 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] Some 48 UNITA criminals belonging to various armed bands operating in Benguela Province were killed by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola in operations recently carried out in the regions of Balombo, Chongoroi, and Cubal. ANGOP, citing authorized military sources, also noted that during the fighting 87 people who were being held captive by UNITA bandits were able to escape and return to their homes. Local authorities immediately gave them the necessary social and food aid to enable them to be reintegrated into society.

In total contrast to the care given to the free captives by the Angolan authorities in Benguela Province, UNITA criminals are continuing to carry out real massacres. In Chicuma commune in Benguela Province, UNITA criminals murdered 20 peasants and wounded 7 others. During their attack, UNITA bandits destroyed two tractors, two motorcycles and various tools which were used by the residents to do farming work. Fresh efforts are being made by the provincial authorities to once again meet the Chicuma residents' needs to carry out agricultural production.

UNITA Extraordinary Congress Declaration

MB211441 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 21 Nov 84

["Declaration of UNITA's Extraordinary Congress" read by UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi at the close of the congress at Jamba on 9 November — recorded]

[Text] Reasons for an extraordinary congress: For 8 years, that is until December 1983, the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] and the Cubans enjoyed a certain military superiority as a result of their Air Force. Since December 1983 the MPLA has received many types of aircraft such as MiG-23's and, MI-24 helicopters, and T-62 tanks. This caused it to seek a military solution to the conflict with UNITA. The MPLA's military policy of destroying UNITA was implemented by offensives noted below.

In the Cazombo offensive from January to July 1984, the enemy employed 15,000 men, 3,000 of whom were Cubans; PT-76, T-54, T-34, BM-21, BTR and BDRM tanks; and an Air Force consisting of 30 aircraft, including MiG-21's, MI-8's, MI-24's, PC-7's, Antonov-26's [word indistinct]-32's, C-130's for fuel transport and Alouette 3's. UNITA, with 16 battalions, wrecked all the Cuban and FAPLA units which took part in this offensive, and on 27 July 1984, the enemy returned in disarray to Luena. [applause, whistling, and drumming].

During 5 months of fighting, the enemy suffered in the Cazombo offensive the following losses: 1,600 FAPLA men were killed, 214 Cubans were killed, 109 FAPLA men were captured, 2 MIG-21's were shot down, 2 MI-8 helicopters were shot down, 1 PC-7 reconnaissance aircraft was shot down, and a total of 98 trucks of various types were destroyed. In this period, UNITA forces suffered the following losses:300 dead, 1,100 wounded, and 20 missing. [slogans]

Not satisfied with this defeat, the enemy launched another offensive, in Munhango and Cuito Cuanavale areas, from August to September 1984. The enemy employed 12 FAPLA brigades and 1 Cuban brigage, 2 companies of Russian technicians, 34 warplanes, 120 assault cars, 25 T-54 and 12 [word indistinct] tanks.

UNITA employed 20 semiregular and 1 regular battalion. The total casualties during this 2-month offensive were as follows: 8 enemy aircraft were shot down, including 5 MI-8 and 3 MiG-21's and 87 trucks, 4 BM-21's, 6 BTR-60's, and 3 T-54 tanks were destroyed [applause, whistling, drumming]. Our side suffered 69 dead, 370 wounded, and 5 missing [slogans].

This period was also characterized by small offensives launched by the 20th, 48th, and 50th enemy brigades from Andulo, (Quiquembo), and Quissama in Bie Province, which lasted a month. The 48th [as heard] and 97th brigades launched an attack from (?Huambo) in Huambo Province, which lasted 15 days. The 45th and 46th brigades launched attacks from Balombo and Longonjo, which lasted 20 days. These small offensives were countered and defeated by the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] [drumming, whistling, and slogans].

As a result of this national and international situation, UNITA convened an extraordinary congress of 400 delegates from Zaire, Uige, Luanda, Cuanza Norte, Malanje, Lunda, Cuanza Sul, Benguela, Huila, Huambo, Bie, Moxico, Cuando Cubango, and Cunene provinces and from UNITA and FALA central organs as well as foreign delegations in order to assess the enemy's military offensives and establish an appropriate strategy for 1985. [applause, drumming, whistling]

It must be noted that the MPLA no longer has the military capacity to launch major offensives against UNITA-controlled areas, even if it uses its numerous aircraft. [applause, whistling, and drumming] As for the Cubans, since the offensives from January to September 1984 were defeated, they prefer to stay put in large towns in defensive positions. This is also as a result of the casualties they have sustained, assessed at 1,300 dead and more than 2,000 wounded. [applause, whistling, and drumming]

The MPLA, a darling of the Russians, prefers to engage in diplomatic activity rather than military action in 1985. It will do the following: It will open itself toward the United States with the aim of obtaining its diplomatic recognition. It will also undertake demarches toward the West in order to get the material assistance that the Soviet Bloc does not give it. It will undertake false maneuvers involving accepting the withdrawal of the Cubans by proposing a schedule facilitating the application of resolution 435/78 to favor SWAPO and harm UNITA's logistical supply routes.

UNITA's triumphant advance to the north of the country, to Bengo Province in general and the attacks on Luanda city in particular, and the disruption of power to the city for 6 days forced the MPLA to resort to talks with the Americans and the South Africans. This was an aknowledgement by the MPLA that the myth of traditional support areas has been broken. They withdrew more than 10 brigades from Huambo, Bie, Moxico, and Cuando Cubango Provinces to defend Luanda.

The MPLA displayed more intransigence in refusing to talk directly with UNITA as it still thinks that it has greater strength as a result of the forced recruitment of youths, students, and workers. This is not producing any effects. On the contrary, it is forcing the youths into the bush, closer to UNITA. The MPLA recruited Portuguese mercenaries from the Portuguese Communist Party through the mediation of Rosa Coutinho, former Portuguese high commissioner for Angola in 1974, to train special commandos. [applause, slogans against the MPLA, Russians, Cubans and praising UNITA]

The reelection of Ronald Reagan as U.S. President will have repercussions on the situation of Angola and the whole of southern Africa.

Listen closely to this. President Reagan's sympathy is on the side of UNITA combatants, who for 9 year have been successfully confronting a force of 40,000 Cubans and the most Soviet military power ever displayed on the African Continent. [applause, whistling, and drumming]

The State Department's policy for southern Africa, especially for Angola and Namibia, must be rapidly clarified to avoid any equivocation which may save the Cubans from the collapse, which is more foreseeable today than ever before. [applause, whistling, and drumming]

Although UNITA has the sympathy of the United States and South Africa, it categorically refuses to serve as a bargaining chip for a fictitious withdrawal of the Cubans from Angola. [shouting, applause, whistling, and drumming]

UNITA will have to stand strong during the negotiations to determine Namibia's future and the corresponding withdrawal of the Cubans from our country. [shouting, applause, whistling, and drumming]

UNITA demands that all forces involved in the southern African conflict recognize UNITA as a central factor and endorse the withdrawal of the Cubans from Angola. [applause and drumming]

UNITA has its whole military apparatus ready and in the right places in order to launch a great offensive against Luanda, Zaire Province, and Cabinda. It is the Western multinationals that support a regime nearing its collapse — with the Cubans ready to desert them — and the Western ambassadors in Luanda who send false reports to their governments in favor of the MPLA. [singing, applause, slogans and drumming]

Should the negotiators of Namibia's independence and the presumed Cuban withdrawal from Angola ignore UNITA, the UNITA extraordinary congress reiterates its disposition not to allow that to happen without great and serious consequences. [applause, drumming, and whistling]

The UNITA extraordinary congress has adopted alternative means of supply should the application of UN Resolution 435/78 endanger its traditional supply lines. [applause, drumming, and whistling]

Although the UNITA extraordinary congress encourages direct negotiations with the MPLA, it finds that with such a significant evolution on the battlefield, and with the understanding which the world gives to UNITA, it now prefers the Angolan problem to be globally solved, in the context of peace for the whole of southern Africa. [applause, drumming and whistling]

The dismissal of Paulo Jorge from the post of minister of foreign affairs in the MPLA does not reflect an important change in the policy of the MPLA. The UNITA extraordinary congress [words indistinct] condemns and repudiates any idea leading to Angola's partition, whatever the reasons. Angola is one integral political, economic, and territorial entity whose partition is a crime of high treason. [applause and drumming]

The free peoples of the West cannot afford to save from certain collapse a regime which ahs always relied on the support of the Cuban mercenary forces against its own people. The MPLA continues to execute innocent Angolans by firing squad. The Mpla is increasingly isolated both from the residents of the south and of the north of the country. Within and outside the country, the MPLA regime is becoming more and more isolated, defending a stand which is not African, but so-called internationalist. The Angolan people will only be able to play their role in southern Africa if (?they accept) a government elected by the people which takes into account the ethnic and racial minorities and a multiparty system as the most dynamic form of democracy. Only a government elected by the Angolan people will be able to give Angolan citizenship to foreigners.

The UNITA extraordinary congress has decided to free the Bulgarian citizens without conditions. They were captured during the capture of Novo Redondo, which the MPLA calls Sumbe, the provincial capital of Cuanza Sul, on 25 March 1984.

The UNITA extraordinary congress supports the reforms undertaken in South Africa by the executive president (?who heads them) as the first step toward creating conditions for the participation of all South African citizens in the political life of their country. This declaration, shows that UNITA seeks peace through dialogue, but still has enough determination and means to continue the war. The struggle triumphs. United we shall win.

Jamba, provisional capital of Angola, on 9 November 1984, the year of the Anti-Cuban Patriotic Front. [applause]

KUP Calls for Vigilance by UNITA Members

MB221152 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Central and Southern Africa 0600 GMT 22 Nov 84

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 22 Nov (KUP) — The hour of truth is approaching relentlessly. The enemy of the Angolan people are giving up in a number of fields, including the military, political, and diplomatic fields. Although UNITA is winning many resounding victories according to certain circles in this resistance movement, it is imperative that vigilance become a watchword for all Angolan patriots.

The MPLA has not stopped attempting to mislead some Western powers with its fallacious diplomatic maneuvers which do not include UNITA in the exercise to settle the conflict in Southern Africa. This is a demonstration of the lack of political realism on the part of the MPLA leaders. In fact, on 11 November 1984, [president] Dos Santos, speaking in Uige Province, admitted that UNITA is operating in that province with the support of the local Angolan population.

The Angolan people will continue to step up the fight for freedom, and nothing will stop their victorious march which is a success for all freedom-loving peoples.

KUP Comments on Dos Santos Letter to UN

MB250655 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Central and Southern Africa 1200 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 24 Nov (KUP) — The international community has heard with great astonishment the acknowledgment by Eduardo dos Santos, when he admitted in a letter to the UN Secretary General that the Luanda regime had lost the war against UNITA, a movement which represents the legitimate aspirations of the Angolan people who are led wisely by their president, Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi.

The development was expected because UNITA has always enjoyed unequivocal support of the majority of the Angolan people. The Luanda regime remains in power thanks to the support of the Cuban troops which invaded Angola. To obtain real peace in Angola and Southern Africa, the Cubans should withdraw completely from Angola.

MOZAMBIQUE

Foreign Minister To Pay Official Visit to Cuba

MB231250 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] Joaquim Chissano, Mozambique's foreign minister, will pay an official and friendly visit to the Republic of Cuba from 25 November to 1 December. The visit is part of the efforts to strengthen the friendship and cooperation between the two states.

Central Region Meeting Discusses Supply, Security

MB250707 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] A high-level central region interprovincial meeting, which has been held in Tete since yesterday, has been discussing problems with supply, transportation, and communications, as well as defense and security.

Marcelino dos Santos, the Sofala leader, said that we want to analyze what has been done and the difficulties which have been encountered. He said this at the opening of the meeting, which was attended by the Manica, Zambezia, and Tete provincial leaders. In his address he stressed that the annihilation of the armed bandits and the eradication of famine and nakedness continue to be the priority tasks in the implementation of the decisions of the 4th Frelimo Congress.

The delegations to the meeting are headed by Mario Machungo, the Zambezia leader, and the governors of Manica and Tete. The military commanders of the four provinces are also attending the meeting, as well as the directors of the supply, transport and communications, defense, and security departments.

Armed Forces Capture Bandene 'Bandit' Camp

MB231542 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1500 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] Mozambique Armed Forces stationed in Guija, Gaza Province, carried out at the early hours of 19 November a surprise attack which resulted in the occupation of the armed bandits' so-called Bandene regional camp. In this operation, our forces killed 14 armed bandits, including self-styled criminal Commander Mabunda, who died sitting on a sofa stolen from the residents. FPLM also captured 2 weapons, 25 magazines, over 1,000 rounds of ammunition, 2 knapsacks, and an assortment of military and civilian goods. Three donkeys that had been stolen from the residents by the armed bandits were also recovered.

719 Families Evacuated from Maputo Harbor

MB231752 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Excerpts] A total of 719 families living on a 150-meter stretch around Maputo harbor will be evacuated by 30 December. The move is designed to end to the frequent thefts at the railroad goods department and permit the building of a new fence and the installation of a new lighting system.

Those to be evacuated include 361 families of rail and harbor workers and the remainder are other residents. These families are presently receiving land in the Machava and (Laulane) suburbs. Once the evacuation of the families has been completed, work will begin to fence the area and install a new lighting system as well as new rail lines.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Radio Comments on RSA Offer

MB220812 Harare Voice of Namibia in English
1900 GMT 21 Nov 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Once again the racist occupationist regime in Namibia has extended an invitation to SWAPO of Namibia to participate in the present political and neocolonial arrangements in the territory. The extension of such an invitation was made recently by the regime's colonial administrator-general, Willie van Niekerk, in Namibia, calling upon SWAPO to hear the invitation to go to Namibia to vote on what Van Niekerk said is constitutional control with racist South Africa's Multiparty Conference [MPC] puppet under the chairmanship of the Pretoria regime. According to racist Van Niekerk, the proposed talks were to design the constitution for Namibia before its independence, which would then receive an approval from the South African racist regime.

In fact, this is not new in the long history of confrontation between the forces of colonialism and that of freedom and national liberation in Namibia. The racist regime has been all along trying to force SWAPO into their puppet politics and neocolonial arrangements in the territory, which are aimed at undermining SWAPO's (?desirability) and reduce SWAPO to the level of South African puppets set up in the country. Of late, South Africa has been demanding that SWAPO lay down her arms in [word indistinct] and participate in what they call the democratic process in Namibia, which are nothing else than mere cynical attempts to outmaneuver SWAPO.

This can also be measured in the recent statements uttered by the puppets of the so called MPC, saying that if SWAPO did not join the puppet grouping by 31 December, then the puppets will, as they put it, negotiate Namibia's independence unilaterally with the South African Government. This is naive, if not ridiculous. Who are these well-known puppets, who want to fool with their bluffing pronouncements with freedom, which they never thought of? SWAPO has got no interest in puppet politics, nor has it got a will to join the MPC. We are not prepared to associate ourselves with the crimes of the South African colonial oppression in their occupation of Namibia, as the regime has always been trying to force us to do.

On the side of drafting Namibia's independence constitution before elections in the territory, SWAPO is bitterly opposed to that. The constitution must be drafted by delegates elected for that purpose, and such delegates must not be bound by prior restrictions. The regime of South Africa wants the constitution to be drafted first so as to enable its puppets, who have no chance of being elected, to program the future of our country. Racist South Africa also wants to be a party to the constitutional drafting, despite its antagonistic interests with regard to Namibia and its people. The so-called all-party meeting the South African government and its MPC puppets are calling for is nothing else than another neocolonial device designed to bypass UN Security Council Resolution 435 and to impose a puppet regime on our people, which would be under manipulation of racist South Africa. In such a move the puppets are preparing for a unilateral declaration of independence in Namibia, with the blessing of South Africa, which will never get loyal support of the oppressed Namibian people or international recognition.

If Pretoria really wants peace and an end to hostilities and bloodshed in Namibia, then they must address ourselves with the problems immediately without wasting time. The people of Namibia want peace and, to be free in their country of their birth. Anything else other than that, the war of liberation will continue to escalate in Namibia until final victory is achieved.

SOUTH AFRICA

Government Grants Kennedy Visa for Visit

MB231427 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans
1400 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] The South African Government has granted Senator Edward Kennedy a visa to visit the country next year. This was announced this afternoon in Pretoria by the director general of internal affairs, Mr (Gerrie van Zyl), following reports that Sen Kennedy was planning to visit South Africa as guest of Dr Alan Boesak, the president of the World Council of Reformed Churches. Mr van Zyl could not give the date of the senator's arrival, but said it would not be before the end of this year. Earlier today, Dr Boesak said he and Sen Kennedy had discussed the visit earlier this year in Washington.

Pik Botha Attacks Angola's Handling of Proposals

MB251209 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has sharply attacked the Angolan Government for its handling of the latest proposals concerning the withdrawal of Cuban and South African troops from Angola. At the same time he has confirmed published details of South African proposals.

Approached for comment, Mr Botha said that, in spite of a mutual agreement, Angola had gone out of its way to publish proposals which Angola had made to South Africa. Mr Botha said that the Angolan action placed a question mark over that country's ability to negotiate seriously.

For its part, South Africa had adhered strictly to its undertaking not to divulge particulars but, in view of the Angolan action, Mr Botha said that South Africa had no other choice than to confirm that details which had now been revealed were correct.

They included a South African proposal that a joint peace commission be appointed to supervise with withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola, and that the withdrawal take place simultaneously with the withdrawal of South African troops from South-West Africa. Furthermore, within 6 weeks of the implementation of UN Resolution 435 concerning the independence of South-West Africa, Cuban troops must be reduced to 12,000, after 9 weeks to 8,000, and after 12 weeks all Cubans must have left Angola.

South Africa insists that the Cubans may not be replaced by another surrogate force. The proposed peace commission must be free to visit any part of Angola to supervise the withdrawal of the Cubans.

For their part, the Angolan proposals entail the withdrawal of Cuban troops in phases of a period of 3 years. They also entail the maintenance of a force of 10,000, until such time as Angola is satisfied that stability is no longer threatened. However, reports say that the UNITA movement views the Agnolan proposals as a strategic military measure aimed at putting UNITA in its place. They say UNITA will probably reject the proposals. Our political staff reports that the standpoint of UNITA will be a limiting factor in the consideration of South African and Angolan proposals.

Police Chief Warns on Rumors Threatening Unrest

MB260534 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] The commissioner of police, General Johan Coetzee, has called on the public not to be misled by rumors which are circulating in the country about threatened unrest. In an interview with our Pretoria news office, Gen Coetzee said people who concern themselves with such rumors fell prey to the radicals who want to create a fear psychosis within the population.

He said the police force, with its information-gathering infrastructure was aware of what was going on in the country, and knew who was responsible for the rumors. The police had shown that they were fully capable of overcoming the terrorist onslaught in South Africa, and that the public could rely on them for protection.

Gen Coetzee said it was characteristic of radicals to create confrontation between whites and blacks in the country. Such confrontation was probably the worst that could occur, and anyone becoming a victim of such strategy was an enemy of South Africa by becoming part of the strategy.

With regard to the black community, Coetzee said radicals had managed to develop a fear psychosis by way of victimization. Referring to revolutionary organizations that wanted to upset the existing order by way of violence, Gen Coetzee said the most important of such organizations was the ANC, and the various pressure groups associated with it. Some were directly involved with the ANC. Among them was the South African Congress of Trade Unions, which in its capacity as labor wing of the ANC wanted to bring about labor unrest.

Buthelezi Calls for Rejection of Violence

MB251220 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] In Soweto, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi has told a rally of the Inkatha movement that the time has come for black communities to unite and to repulse those using violence and intimidation as political weapons against fellow blacks. He said that the ordinary black man had gained nothing by the unrest and violence that had swept the country in the past few months.

Chief Buthelezi made a scathing attack on the congress movements and certain individuals. He said their tactics only caused suffering and hardship, and divided the black community.

Chief Buthelezi said that the South African Congress of Trade Unions was doing the dirty work of the ANC mission-in- exile. He described the Congress of South African Students as youth gone mad. Chief Buthelezi said he was not against strikes and stay-at-home calls, or the use of consumer power to back political demands. However, he said that he was opposed to tactics dictated to the masses by the few.

He asked his audience whether they had instructed their leaders that they wanted to sacrifice their jobs and their houses for no gain at all. Chief Buthelezi said that the plain man rejected armed struggle for political powers, because it would achieve nought for the foreseeable future.

He said that this knowledge was shared by the whole of Africa, as has been indicated by President Samora Machel when he signed the Nkomati Accord. Chief Buthelezi said that he knew the new constitution and the fast deteriorating economy would lead to unrest, but his warnings had been rejected by the South African Government.

Botha Mediates Conflict Between Zulus, Swazis

KwaZulu Denies Koornhof Incident

MB231844 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] The KwaZulu government has denied reports that it had asked Pieter Koornhof to leave the funeral of Chief Gatsha Buthelezi's mother yesterday. It was reported in this morning's *NATAL MERCURY* that Koornhof was told to leave because KwaZulu officials feared there may be incidents if he stayed. Carmel Rickard has the story:

[Rickard] According to the lawyers, what actually happened is that Koornhof and other dignitaries who had traveled some distance to attend the long ceremony left the platform to have lunch at Chief Buthelezi's home before beginning their return journey. Shortly before they left to have lunch, the master of ceremonies, Prince Gideon Zulu, explained to the large crowd of mourners why Chief Buthelezi's daughter, who lives in Swaziland, was not at the ceremony.

A messenger who had gone to tell her the news was given a curt reception by the Swazis, and the South African minister of foreign affairs subsequently sent a letter to Chief Buthelezi asking him to give an undertaking that his daughter would be allowed to return to Swaziland. Prince Zulu asked Koornhof to tell his government that the Zulu people felt insulted by this message. The lawyers add that that was the end of the matter. There was no threat to Koornhof, but it was simply coincidence that shortly after this he and several other guests left the platform for lunch.

Swazi Delegation Meets Botha

MB241204 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] A delegation from Swaziland led by the country's minister of foreign affairs, Mr Mnisi, arrived in Pretoria this morning for talks with the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha. Our Pretoria news staff reports that the discussions began in the state guest house a short while ago.

A spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs said matters of mutual interest would be discussed, but attention would also be given to the controversy surrounding Princess Phumzile, the eldest daughter of chief minister Gatsha Buthelezi of Kwazulu.

A dispute arose between Kwazulu and Swaziland last week after Prince Gideon Zulu of Kwazulu was not prepared to allow Princess Phumzile to attend the funeral of her grandmother, Princess Magogo. Earlier it was reported that Mr Botha had asked that Kwazulu to give the assurance that Princess Phumzile would be allowed to return to Swaziland should she attend the funeral, but according to reports she did not arrive. A spokesman said the matter was regarded as delicate, and Mr Botha was not prepared to comment until such time as he had conveyed the Swazi point of view to chief minister Buthelezi.

Zulus Threaten 'Warpath'

MB251010 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English
25 Nov 84 pp 1,2

[Excerpts] The Zulus are threatening to go on the warpath against Swaziland over a lovelorn princess. The South African Foreign Minister, Mr Pik Botha, has been called in as mediator amid fears of a gigantic and bloody tribal clash. The threat of conflict is so serious, say observers in Pretoria that the possibility of South African troops being deployed to keep the factions apart could not be excluded.

The woman in the middle of the storm is Chief Gatsha Buthelezi's daughter, Phumzile, who is married to Swaziland' Prime Minister Prince Bhekimpi. The Zulus claim the princess is being kept against her will, but Swazis deny this and say she is legally married to their Prime Minister according to Swazi tradition, and has a 10-year-old son by him. The latest row over the princess came to a head after this week's funeral of Chief Buthelezi's mother, Princess Phumzile failed to attend as arranged.

Throughout yesterday Mr Botha was engaged in "delicate" negotiatons with a senior Swazi delegation in Pretoria to try to defuse the situation, which has whipped up tribal emotions to fever-high pitch in both Swaziland and KwaZulu.

Sources in Swaziland claimed yesterday that Chief Buthelezi was seriously thinking of sending waves of Zulu impis and warriors across the border to go and fetch his daughter back from the Swazis.

Mr Botha confirmed yesterday that he had accepted the role of mediator between the two nations about what he termed "this delicate and painful affair." "I am in contact with Chief Buthelezi and the Swazi Government about the matter," he said.

Chief Buthelezi, who was scheduled to address a mass Inkatha rally at Jabulani ampitheatre in Soweto morning, is understood to be adamant that his daughter be brought back immediately — otherwise "Zulus would settle the matter in their own way." Chief Buthelezi could not be contacted for comment last night.

Mr Botha told the *SUNDAY TIMES* that he had sent a message to Swaziland on behalf of KwaZulu saying that a car would be sent to fetch Princess Phumzile to enable her to get to her grandmother's funeral this week. "The Swazis asked me if could arrange that princess could freely cross the border into south as she does not have a passport or travel document. The necessary arrangements were made." Mr Botha said.

But it seems the princess did not attend the funeral nor did she cross the border.

The marriage row goes back about 10 years, when Prince Bhekimpi fell in love with Chief Buthelezi's daughter while he was attending a tribal ceremony in KwaZulu. A son was born as a result of the relationship. According to sources in Swaziland and KwaZulu, Chief Buthelezi was not happy with the situation and did not consent to a marriage. However, Princess Phumzile went to Swaziland and married the prince in a traditional Swazi ceremony, thereby becoming his third wife. A lobola [bridal price] of 50 cattle was sent to Chief Buthelezi, but the chief turned it down.

Delegation to Buthelezi Mother's Funeral Returns

MB231830 Mbabane Television Service in Siswati
1630 GMT 23 Nov 84

[Text] The Swazi delegation that had been sent by her majesty the Queen Regent Ntombi to KwaZulu to attend the funeral of Princess Magogo returned home today. Princess Magogo is the mother of Chief Gatsha Buthelezi. This delegation was headed by Dr Polycarp Dlamini, managing director of Tibiyo. Included in the delegation were Mr Mhambi Mnisi, minister of foreign affairs; Mr Mhlangano Matsebula, minister of labor and public service; Mr Magangeni Dlamini, [no title as heard]; and Mr John Dube, chief of protocol in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

SWAZILAND

Former Finance Minister Detained by Police

MB240800 Mbabane THE SWAZI NEWS in English
24 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] The former Minister of Finance, Dr. Sishayi Nxumalo, is being held by police for questioning. Dr. Nxumalo was picked up from his home at Dalriach in Mbabane and was temporarily held at Mbabane police station before he was transferred to Pigg's Peak where he was still in custody yesterday.

The Commissioner of Police, Mr. Majaji Simelane, confirmed that Dr. Nxumalo was being held. Mr. Simelane said: "He is in custody helping us with our investigations. It is quite normal for the police to keep someone in custody to obtain information. As soon as we have obtained all the assistance we need, we will release him.

"No one likes to keep anyone in custody without a good reason. How long it takes before he is released will depend on how long it takes to get the assistance we need. It will depend on his co-operation." Asked whether the former Army Col Mangomeni Ndzimandze and Major Barnabas Dlamini were still in custody, Mr Simelane said: "They are still in custody helping us, and as soon as we get all the information we will free them."

ZAMBIA

Government, Party Seek Border Security

MB260806 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] A member of the Central Committee has said it is the policy of the party and its government to ensure that the lives of the people living along the country's borders are (?secure). Addressing people at Kaonga, Mahachi, and Ngembela in Senanga, Western Province member of the Central Committee (Felix Luputa) appealed to the people to remain vigilant and report any suspicious characters to authorities, as well as those crossing into neighboring countries without legal documents.

Mr (Luputa) warned that those illegally crossing the border would be dealt with accordingly, since they are enemies of the nation. He said he was not against people visiting relatives across the border, as long as they have proper documents from the immigration department that authorizes them to cross the border. People living along the border areas of Kalabo, Senanga, Sesheke have meanwhile appealed to the government through Mr (Luputa's) office to provide transport and upgrade roads to enable them to get food and other commodities.

Demarcation of International Borders Urged

AB241525 Dakar PANA in English 1140 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Lusaka, 24 Nov (ZANA/PANA) — The Zambian Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs has asked the government to quickly determine the extent of the country's boundaries with neighboring countries and take a definite step on claims to the nation's territory.

Chairman of the committee Mr Eaul Chipwayambokoma, said in presenting the committee's report to parliament on Friday for adoption that the government should establish the extent of Zambia's boundaries with Angola, Zaire, and Malawi.

Mr Chipwayambokoma, who is also member for Chisamba, noted that the Malawi claim over certain portions of Zambia and the doubts on where Zambia's boundary with Angola lies remain unresolved in addition to the dispute with Zaire at Kaputa, where a Zairean flag is still flying on Zambian soil. He said although Zambia has joint commissions of cooperation with the three countries, these commissions have done nothing to resolve the outstanding disputes. "In this regard it is the view of the committee that there is need to review either the operations or the composition of these commissions so as to improve their effectiveness or scrap them altogether," he explained.

Mr Chipwayambokoma also complained that government ministries continued to ignore the regulations requiring them to submit any treaties signed with foreign countries to parliament before they are ratified.

Zairian Pilot Still Held in Custody

AB241252 Dakar PANA in English 1150 GMT 24 Nov 84

[Text] Lusaka, 24 Nov (ZANA/PANA) — Zambian security officials are still holding a Zairean Air Force pilot whose jet strayed into Zambian airspace and made an emergency landing on Wednesday at Solwezi Airport in the northwestern part of the country.

(?Northwestern member of the Central Committee), Mr Alex Shapi who is also chairman of the Zambia/Zaire Joint Permanent Commission declined to comment on the matter saying it was now in the hands of the Foreign Ministry.

But the Zambia *DAILY MAIL* on Friday quoted reliable sources in Solwezi as saying that a team of Zambia Air Force officers from Lusaka arrived in Solwezi on Friday afternoon and spent some time examining the jet.

The pilot of the jet, identified only as Captain Mulomba, was still being questioned as to how he strayed into Zambian air space although documents found in the jet on Wednesday showed that the pilot might have lost his way while on a flight from Moba, near Lake Tanganyika, to Lubumbasmi.

ZIMBABWE

ZAPU Deputy Assassinated on Farm by Dissidents

AB260930 Paris AFP in French 0916 GMT 26 Nov 84

[Text] Harare, 26 November (AFP) — A deputy of the ZAPU, Joshua Nkomo's minority party, was killed on Sunday at his farm in western Zimbabwe, according to a government spokesman cited on Monday morning by the official Zimbabwean news agency ZIANA. Mr Ntuta was the first ZAPU deputy to be killed by dissidents, the spokesman specified.

According to other sources cited by the agency, Mr Ntuta was on his farm in Naymandlovu District in the north of Bulawayo in Matabeleland Province when he was taken by surprise by "three armed bandits." "The dissidents pursued Mr Ntuta for 4 km before killing him," added the agency.

Jini Ntuta, 60, who was assassinated, was one of the ZAPU members dismissed from the Zimbabwean Government in February 1982. Mr Ntuta, a former ZAPU secretary for defense, was also a former deputy minister of mines and energy resources.

Two weeks ago, Moven Ndlovu, a senator of ZANU — Mr Mugabe's majority party — was assassinated at Beitbridge in the southern part of the country. The prime minister had then accused ZAPU "and its dissidents." The rebel dissidents of Matabeleland took up arms for political and tribal reasons following the dismissal of Mr Nkomo and other ZAPU ministers from the government in February 1982 after being accused of hiding weapons of war meant for a plot.

Mr Nkomo has frequently denied that ZAPU was manipulating the dissidents and on the contrary accused the government and the army of instigating murders by agent provocateurs disguised as "dissidents."

1 Killed, 9 Injured in Explosion at Mutare

MB250658 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] Police in Harare say a 7-year-old girl has been killed and nine people have been injured in a bomb explosion near the town of Mutare, southeast of Harare. The ZANA says two men put the device — believed to be a grenade — on the ground in front of a house and then fled. The report says Mutare, which lies near the Mozambican border, has been relatively untouched by the politically inspired violence that has disrupted much of the western and central regions over the past 2 years. Unexploded war materiel of various sorts were left over from the 7-year bush war before independence, and have often resulted in injuries.

Saudi Prince Leaves After Discussing Investment

MB251235 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 25 Nov 84

[Text] The Saudi Arabian prince, Prince Walid 'Abd al-'Aziz al Sa'ud, left harare for home today after holding successful talks with Zimbabwean government officials. The prince, who arrived in the country last Sunday, held talks with the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, and a number of government ministers aimed at exploring areas of cooperation between the two countries.

Addressing newsmen before his departure, the prince's legal adviser for African investments, (Faysal Farad), said the prince has expressed keen interest to invest in the agricultural and mining industries in Zimbabwe. He said feasibility studies will soon be carried out in these areas, and also expressed the hope that economic agreements will soon be signed. He was also impressed with the steady improvement in Zimbabwe's economy. He was seen off at the airport by the minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, and government officials.